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## Pacific forces keep necessities flowing to victims in Asia Pages 5-7

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**Bowl roundup on Pages 36-39**



AP photos

Clockwise from top left: Georgia tailback Danny Ware (28) tries to slip past the grasp of Wisconsin defensive lineman Erasmus James during Georgia's 24-21 Outback Bowl win Saturday. Iowa quarterback Drew Tate holds up his helmet and the Most Valuable Player trophy Saturday after defeating LSU 30-25 in the Capital One Bowl in Orlando, Fla. Navy quarterback Aaron Polanco, center, is congratulated by teammates after Navy defeated New Mexico 34-19 in the Emerald Bowl on Thursday. Polanco was voted game MVP.

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## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

## States

**Aircraft-laser probe:** A laser beam was aimed at a police helicopter Friday — one of several incidents involving aircraft across the country in the past week — and federal authorities were questioning someone who had been at a house where they said the light had originated.

Officials said no one was hurt when the laser hit the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey police helicopter as it flew over an area where a similar incident occurred Wednesday.

Soon after, Port Authority officials and the FBI went to a Parsippany, N.J., home where they had tracked the laser beam. No charges had been filed as of late Friday night, officials said.

**FBI whistleblower:** A career FBI agent from Minneapolis who rocked official Washington with a blistering memo to the boss alleging bureau bungling before the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks has retired from the agency.

Allen Rowley, who was named one of Time magazine's Persons of the Year for 2002 for her whistleblowing efforts, retired Friday, 11 days after turning 50 — when she became eligible for a full pension, the Star Tribune reported.

**Anna Nicole's millions:** Anna Nicole Smith's lawyer vowed to ask a federal appeals court to reconsider after it ruled that the former Playboy model turned reality TV star is not entitled to \$88.5 million from her late husband, an oil tycoon who married her when he was nearly 90.

Howard K. Stern said Thursday he would ask the full appeals court to rehear the case and would appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary.

## World

**Sudan's civil war:** Sudan's government signed a preliminary peace deal Friday with rebels from the country's south, edging one step closer to a comprehensive accord to end Africa's longest running civil war.

But the continuing violence in the western region of Darfur cast a shadow over celebrations. Delegates from the warring sides initiated the two final chapters of an eight-part pact that spell out a power-sharing agreement and a permanent cease-fire.

A final peace accord is set for Jan. 9 in Nairobi, Kenya, where rebel leader John Garang and Vice President Ali Osman Mohamed Taha will sign all eight parts of the peace



**Political controversy in Pakistan:** Protesters hold a banner that reads "Black Day against pro-U.S. policies and western agenda" on Saturday in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Secular and religious groups held nationwide protest rallies to condemn the decision by President Gen. Pervez Musharraf to retain the powerful post of army chief. Despite hundreds of people participating in Karachi and other major cities, the demonstrations did not attract the thousands of protesters that organizers had hoped for, and none of the country's top opposition leaders attended.

deal.

**Ukraine election turmoil:** Viktor Yanukovich vowed to fight on for Ukraine's presidency, despite handing the opposition of this ex-Soviet Republic a begrudging victory by announcing his resignation as prime minister.

His opponent, Western-leaning opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko, soundly won last weekend's court-ordered presidential runoff, but Yanukovich has refused to concede, vowing to challenge the results in the Supreme Court. Under Ukrainian election law, Yushchenko cannot be declared president until all appeals against the voting are exhausted.

**China after SARS:** China's tourism industry rebounded strongly in the wake of SARS last year, with a nearly 20 percent increase in foreign arrivals and a 50 percent surge in revenues, the government said Saturday.

Some 9 million foreign tourists arrived in China between January and November last year, a 19.6 percent rise from the same period a year earlier, the official Xinhua News Agency reported, citing China's Na-

tional Tourism Administration.

**Civil war in Uganda:** Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni on Saturday said the army will resume all-out war on rebels in northern Uganda, charging that the insurgents rejected a cease-fire deal that had been expected to open the way for political talks on ending the 18-year civil war.

The government, however, will continue negotiating with the rebels in an effort to find a political solution to the conflict in which thousands have been killed and more than a million forced from their homes, Museveni said during New Year's celebrations.

**Taiwan independence:** Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian described rival China's plans for an anti-secession law as a threat to regional security in his New Year message Saturday.

China's parliament, the National People's Congress, will discuss plans for the law at its full session, convening on March 5. Beijing says the law is aimed at pushing Taiwan to unite with the mainland.

Stories and photo from wire services

Zama ITT



## It's Sapporo Snow Festival Time!

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# For Pac troops, little things were big in '04

BY DAVID ALLEN

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The year 2004 was an eventful one, marked by typhoons, tsunamis, the war on terrorism and landmark elections at home and abroad.

Yet for many U.S. servicemembers in the Pacific and their families, the little events — a new baby, a successful deployment — mattered most at year's end.

"It was inviting a couple of single Marines over for Christmas dinner," said Erica Irvin, 25, who moved to Okinawa in November with her Marine husband and two young children.



Winters

"It was so nice, being able to sit down to dinner and exchange gifts and provide them with a family — a home away from home," said the Harlem, N.Y., native. "It just made it such a wonderful Christmas."



Farquhar

Fireman Josh Farquhar, 19, from Sasebo Naval Base, Japan's detachment of Assault Craft Unit One, took two weeks of leave in August to travel home to McDonough, Ga., where he met his newborn sister.

"This year I had a chance to meet my new sister," Farquhar said. "It's nice to have a sister. It forced me to learn a lot, like the kind of things you might have to do when you become a father."

His mother is 45 years old, so a sister was not something he expected.

"Yes, it's unusual," he added. "But hey, it happens."

Across the Sea of Japan, Senior Airman Ivan Rodriguez, an air



Sims

traffic controller at Osan Air Base, South Korea, said the year brought two happy events likely to have long-term effects on his life.

For one thing, he was assigned to Osan's 51st Operations Support Squadron, where air traffic controllers get a high-tempo workout in applying their skills to an array of aircraft.

"I'm learning more here than I did at my last base," said Rodriguez, 24. "We have a lot of aircraft coming in and out. ... The different type of airframes, big ones, heavies, fast ones ... That's not something you can get at just any base in the States."

But the most significant event involved family.

"My sister's having a kid so I'm going to be an uncle," he said. "I'll get to see them when I go home on leave."



Ayers

Gunnery Sgt. Ben Leake, 38, said 2004 was just a "good quiet year. That about sums it up."

Leake, of Amboy, Ill., with Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, said 2004 was marked by "being able to spend the year with my family without any long deployments. Forty-six days to Korea was the longest. It was nice."

Retired Marine Master Sgt. Joe Sims, 59, said "nothing extraordinary happened" in 2004. "Nothing good and, more importantly, nothing terribly bad. But that's

*"That's the way life should be, nothing very bad, nothing very good. It's just a good, good life."*

Retired Marine Master Sgt. Joe Sims

the way life should be, nothing very bad, nothing very good. It's just a good, good life."

Young men and women join the Navy in part to see the world,



Kimmer

"Being deployed in Thailand during Cobra Gold was great," he said. "I made many of my best friends in a place I had never imagined ever seeing."

"It's difficult now to imagine that a country with such beauty and friendly people has suffered such devastation as that from the tsunamis," he added. "I'm glad the U.S. and others are assisting with relief."

For Navy Airman Arsenio Hawkins, an aviation boatswain's mate aboard the USS Kitty Hawk at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, 2004 also was memorable for visiting new places — "a trip to Australia. And Hong Kong."

Hawkins said he also enjoyed sightseeing and shopping in Singapore and Guam — but he'll probably remember his birthday most: "My 21st birthday. In Las Vegas. It was great."

Travel also marked Marine Sgt. Carlos Lopez's year. In November, Lopez, assigned to Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station's Headquarters Squadron, flew to visit his wife. "I flew back to Phoenix and stayed through the holidays," he said

Thursday afternoon, back in Iwakuni. "I went mainly so I could see my newborn daughter," the couple's second daughter.

"Having a second child has a big impact on our lives. We were really ready to have a second child."

"Also, 2004 is the first time I've been stationed in Japan," Lopez said. "I really like it here because the people are friendly and it's a beautiful country. And I saw snow for the first time in my life here in Japan."

For Air Force Staff Sgt. Ryan Ayers, an avionics sensors technician with the 51st Maintenance Squadron at Osan Air Base, the year's highlight was job-related: a Dec. 1 promotion from senior airman to staff sergeant.

It's "meant more responsibility, more pull as to what goes on and obviously, more money to support the family," said Ayers, who has a 22-month-old son, Ryan II, with wife Cassandra.

Air Force Senior Airman Jeremy Anton, 23, a Korean linguist with the 303rd Intelligence Squadron at Osan, also cited a job-related event as the year's most significant. "I went to a language school, 10 weeks, in Seoul," he said. "I'm a Korean linguist so I have to take a test every year. So after I finished that course, I doubled my scores."

A successful test also highlighted the year for Air Force Staff Sgt. Shaka Charles, with the 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron at Yokota Air Base. He made

Seoul, he said. "I'm a Korean linguist so I have to take a test every year. So after I finished that course, I doubled my scores."

A successful test also highlighted the year for Air Force Staff Sgt. Shaka Charles, with the 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron at Yokota Air Base. He made

"It was my first time testing," he said. "I studied really hard. It was a goal I set and I accomplished it."

Buster Winters said his first year at Yokota Air Base solidified what he wants to do in life. He came there hoping to be a Department of Defense Representative.

Schools taught but needed a few courses to earn the teaching certificate needed to accompany his degree.

So while working toward his certificate, he took a job working with toddlers and preschoolers at the Yokota Child Development Center — and through it, realized with more certainty how much he wants to teach.

"Each and every day is a new and wonderful thing for me," he said. "The whole year of having been there working with the kids has been a great experience. It's been an incredible year for me."

Marine Master Sgt. Bill Foote, 45, said the U.S. presidential election marked the year most for him.

"I really believe in what we are doing in Iraq and President Bush is the person to lead us," he said. "There's a price for freedom and, as a Marine, I am ready to pay that price."

Otherwise, said Foote, with the 3rd Force Service Support Group on Okinawa, his year was marked by staying healthy and not getting promoted.

"On the good side, I'm healthy," he joked. "On the bad side, I didn't get selected for promotion. But life goes on."

"I think what happened over the weekend, with the thousands dying in the tsunamis, showed us all how fragile life is."

Juliana Gitter, Franklin Fisher and Greg Tyler contributed to this report.

E-mail David Allen at: allen@stripes.com



Anton



Charles



Irvin



Leake



## Humanitarian helicopters

Helicopters from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron 2, the "Golden Falcons," and Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (Light) 47, the "Saberhawks," depart from the USS Abraham Lincoln on Saturday en route to Aceh, Indonesia. The helicopters are transporting supplies and disaster relief teams and supporting humanitarian airlifts to tsunami-stricken coastal regions. The Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group is operating in the Indian Ocean off the waters of Indonesia and Thailand. See page 6 for more local coverage of the tsunami disaster.

TYLER J. CLEMENTS/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

# AAFES hikes gas 6 cents in Japan

## Pump prices drop in S. Korea, Guam

Stars and Stripes

The price for a gallon of regular gas at Army and Air Force Exchange Service pumps will increase by 6 cents in Japan and Okinawa and drop 15 cents in South Korea and 11 cents in Guam effective Saturday, officials announced Thursday.

These changes are based on the U.S. Department of Energy averages from the previous four-week period, according to an AAFES news release. In Japan and Okinawa, mid-grade unleaded fuel prices

will increase from \$1.94 to \$2.00. Diesel prices will increase from \$1.81 to \$1.91, the release stated.

In South Korea the price for unleaded will decrease from \$2.05 to \$1.90 per gallon. The price for premium-unleaded will decrease from \$2.24 to \$2.10 per gallon and the price for diesel will decrease from \$2.22 to \$2.07 per gallon, AAFES announced.

For Guam's AAFES customers, the price for unleaded will decrease from \$2.06 to \$1.95 per gallon, and the price for premium unleaded will decrease from \$2.26 to \$2.15 per gallon.

# Kadena couple delivers Pacific's first baby of 2005

BY VINCE LITTLE

Stars and Stripes

Air Force Staff Sgt. Derrick McCoy and his wife, Justina, hit the commissary at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, on Friday evening — their focus on a New Year's Eve party later that night.

Justina was pregnant with the couple's third child, but she wasn't due for another week.

"I figured we'd go by and get some sandwiches before we went," Derrick recalled. "Standing at the checkout line, she goes, 'Hold on, baby, I'll be right back.'"

A few minutes later, Justina returned from the restroom and told him it was time.

"We took off for the hospital," he said. "Basically, we threw the groceries in the truck and headed out to (Camp) Lester. We already knew the drill."

"The only thing we were afraid of was, it's New Year's Eve. The locals have big celebrations. I was worried about heavy traffic. But there was no traffic at all, and all the lights were green."

About 10 hours later — at 4:24 a.m. Saturday, to be exact — at the U.S. Naval Hospital on Camp Lester, Justina delivered Kalityah Devine McCoy, who became the first baby of the new year to arrive at a U.S. military hospital in the Pacific. Measuring 19.5 inches, she weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces.

"It's like a new beginning — a new beginning," said Justina McCoy, still in a bit of pain but resting comfortably Saturday afternoon in the hospital. "It's very special."

Derrick, an F-15 weapons maintainer for Kadena's 18th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, said the New Year's Day birth was indeed a special event.

"The whole birth and all was special. Miracle baby. That's

what I say," he added. "Everything came out great."

"It's very unique. Our other kids were born during the summer months. To have one on the first day of the year, it's a great way to start the year out."

But a holiday birthday isn't unique in the McCoy family. Oldest daughter Jaleisha, 7, was born on Mother's Day. They also have a 6-year-old daughter, Ariana.

At the Camp Lester hospital Saturday, the nursing staff brought flowers into Justina's room, and more gifts were on the way. There was even talk of throwing a small party in her hospital room to mark the year's first new arrival.

Mother and baby likely would be released Monday, hospital officials said. Derrick plans to take 30 days of leave to spend time with Kalityah.

The family moved to Okinawa a little more than a year ago, and he also wants to take everyone out and explore the island. "If the weather allows us to," he said. And Justina's mother is coming for a visit from Colorado Springs, Colo., Justina's hometown.

The hospital at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, was the birthplace of the first Pacific military babies in 2003 and 2004. About 530 are born there each year, officials said.

On Saturday, however, there were no new bundles of joy in the Yokosuka community, said Lt. Glory Castaneda, a registered nurse in the naval hospital's Labor and Delivery section. At 6 p.m., no new prospective moms had been admitted.

Recovering from the New Year's Day delivery and getting to know little Kalityah at Camp Lester, Justina remarked: "Now, I really have something to celebrate, instead of just the new year."

E-mail Vince Little at: littlevp@stribes.osd.mil

## Having a (snow)ball at Atsugi



BRIAN NARANJO/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Children at Naval Air Facility Atsugi, Japan, roll a massive snowball across frozen pine needles and grass in military family housing on Friday. The sudden change in weather was welcomed by kids all over the base.



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## IN THE WORLD

## Heavy rains, aftershocks add to misery

BY CHRIS BRUMMITT  
The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — After the devastation wreaked by the seas, a deluge from the skies deepened the misery for tsunami-stricken areas Saturday, triggering flash floods in Sri Lanka that sent evacuees fleeing and increasing the threat of deadly disease as survivors shivered in relief centers.

Additionally, a magnitude 6.5 aftershock jolted Sumatra, as the confirmed death toll from the quake and tsunamis that hit a week ago passed 123,000. The United Nations has said the estimated number of dead was approaching 150,000.

At one refugee camp on the grounds of the airport of Banda Aceh, hundreds of people spent a wet night under plastic sheets. "With no help we will die," said Indra Syaputra.

The rains pumping the corpse-littered city were creating conditions for cholera and other waterborne diseases to spread.

The Indonesian Red Cross in Banda Aceh, the capital of Aceh province, reportedly dug out a survivor from the ruins of a house where he had been buried since the tsunami struck. The rescues heard Ihsan Asyraf's cries for help. After he was pulled out

See more  
tsunami stories  
on Pages 6-7

Friday, he asked for water and was taken to a hospital for treatment of cuts and bruises.

On India's remote Andaman and Nicobar islands, a woman who fled the killer waves gave birth Monday in the forest that became her sanctuary. She named her son "Tsunami."

In eastern Sri Lanka, flash floods forced the evacuation of about 2,000 people already displaced by a tsunami that killed nearly 29,000 people on the tropical island.

Several roads leading to Ampara — one of the hardest hit towns — were flooded, preventing relief trucks from arriving, said Neville Wijesinghe, a senior police officer.

The hunt for loved ones dragged on with tens of thousands still missing throughout Sumatra Asia.

Aftershocks rattled the region, sending panicked Sumatrans into the streets.

Geologists said a 6.5 quake rattled Sumatra at 1:25 p.m., centered 155 miles southwest of Banda Aceh. Smaller quakes hit



Refugees displaced by last week's tsunami eagerly reach out for food donations Saturday at the airport in Banda Aceh, Indonesia. A U.N. humanitarian chief estimated the number of dead was approaching 150,000.

West Java and southern Sumatra earlier. Seismologists said strong tremors of up to magnitude 6.1 also struck the Andaman and Nicobar islands, where the exact number of tsunami casualties was not known but feared to be in the thousands.

Hunger and disease were the biggest threats in the archipelago, which the Indian government

has largely been keeping off-limits to foreign aid agencies.

"There is starvation. People haven't had food or water for at least five days. There are carcasses. There will be an epidemic," said Andaman's member of Parliament, Manoranjan Bhakta.

Island officials say at least 3,754 people were missing amid go, which the Indian government

and mounds of dead animals. V.V. Bhat, chief secretary of the islands, said the missing could not be presumed dead because they could have survived in coconut groves that dot the islands.

In Indonesia, hardest hit of the 11 nations struck by the tsunami, the official death toll stood below more than 80,000, but officials said it could reach 100,000.

## Sumatra tsunami victims swarm Navy aid helicopters

BY DENIS D. GRAY  
The Associated Press

ABOARD THE USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN — Desperate, homeless villagers on the tsunami-ravaged island of Sumatra mobbed American helicopters carrying aid Saturday as the U.S. military launched its largest operation in the region since

the Vietnam War, ferrying food and other emergency relief to survivors across the disaster zone.

From dawn until sunset on New Year's Day, 12 Seahawk helicopters shuttled supplies and advance teams from offshore naval vessels while reconnaissance aircraft brought back stark images of wave-wrecked

coastal landscapes and their hungry, traumatized inhabitants.

"They came from all directions, crawling under the craft, knocking on the pilot's door, pushing to get into the cabin," said Petty Officer First Class Brennan Zwack. "But when they saw we had no more food inside, they backed away, saying 'Thank you, thank you.'"

"The mob decided how we distributed the food. There were so many hands outstretched I don't think any package touched the ground," added Zwack, of Sioux Falls, S.D.

The helicopters took off from the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln, staged in calm waters about three miles off the Indonesian province of Aceh along with four other vessels to launch the sprawling U.S. military operation.

More than a dozen other ships were en route to southern Asian waters, with the USS Bonhomme Richard, an amphibious assault vessel carrying Marines, headed for Sri Lanka, which along with Indonesia was the worst-hit area. The mission involves thousands of sailors and Marines, along with some 1,000 land-based troops.

Thailand's Vietnam War-era air base of Utapao has become the airlift hub for the region.

C-130 transport planes were already conducting sorties to Jakarta and the Sumatran cities of Medan and Banda Aceh, according to a statement Saturday by the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta.

U.S. Navy medical staff are also on the ground in Meulaboh, a decimated fishing village where several thousand bodies have been recovered. The Navy is considering a request from Jakarta to establish a field hospital there.

As many as 100,000 people are feared dead on Sumatra, which was closest to the epicenter of last Sunday's catastrophic quake and tsunami. Although aid has been piling up in regional airports, officials have had trouble getting it out to the areas in need and the U.S. military was expected to ease the bottleneck.

The Lincoln's operations officer, Cmdr. Matthew J. Faletti, said the New Year's Day effort off Sumatra was focused on ferrying emergency relief, including biscuits, energy drinks and instant noodles, to communities along the 120-mile stretch of sea-coast south of the city of Banda Aceh.

Most of the 25,000 pounds of aid supplies delivered Saturday were picked up from Australian and other foreign shipments at Banda Aceh and then rushed by the helicopters to coastal towns,

where tens of thousands were killed by the giant wall of water.

U.S. military medical and damage assessment teams were also landed with helicopters flying in heavy winds, rain and low clouds.

Supplies had to be dropped from craft hovering over some water-logged areas where landing proved impossible.

"There is nothing left to speak of at these coastal areas," said Lt. Cmdr. Jeff Vorce, a pilot from San Diego, California. The tsunami left a swath of destruction as deep as two miles inland, with trees mowed down like grass and the only evidence of buildings in many communities the bare foundations, pilots said.

Many residents were camped out on high ground, either afraid to return to the seacoast or having nothing to return to.

The town of Meulaboh, where some 50,000 people had once lived, was about 80 percent destroyed, Faletti estimated.

Officials said information was being gathered on how best American resources could be used including the skills of machinists, masons, carpenters, divers and general laborers among the more than 6,000 crew members on the giant carrier.

"Everyone is champing at the bit to go out and help," said Vorce. "Today wasn't about a paycheck."

## Yokota Baptist Church

Pastor Warren Webster

日本語もあります YBC services are interpreted in Japanese

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At Fussa Gate: Left on 16 to light. Turn right. Take next left. Church on left.

Near right: Air Force personnel at Kaduna Air Base, Okinawa, load humanitarian relief supplies Saturday onto a C-5 Galaxy. Six aircraft carrying troops and supplies left Okinawa to support tsunami-relief efforts in Southeast Asia.

Far right: Airmen from the 374th Airlift Wing at Yokota Air Base, Japan, load supplies onto a C-17 Globemaster headed for a forward-operating base in Utapao, Thailand.



FRED ZIMMERMAN/Stars and Stripes



WARREN COMER  
Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

## Military keeps brisk tsunami-relief tempo

BY VINCE LITTLE

Stars and Stripes

With fears of disease and epidemic stretching across tsunami-ravaged Southeast Asia where the death toll has soared past 123,000 — U.S. military officials in the Pacific are picking up the pace of their humanitarian and disaster-relief operations in the region.

With assessment teams on the ground and Joint Task Force 536 moving into place, led by Lt. Gen. Robert R. Blackman, commander of the Okinawa-based III Marine Expeditionary Force, American servicemembers are distributing food, water and medical supplies to victims of the tragedy and aiding in the search for possible survivors. An estimated 5 million people remain homeless.

"We'll continue to flow these things in there," said Army Lt. Col. Vi Strong, a Pacific Command spokeswoman. "Our tempo will continue. In fact, we're calling in more people to help with this effort. Nothing is slowing down."

There are a number of U.S. military assets already in the region, and more are headed to the region for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

A Marine spokesman on Okinawa said servicemembers and supplies are continuously being pushed out to help in the massive humanitarian-relief mission. Six flights left the island Saturday, carrying 11 Humvees, Meals, Ready to Eat, water and communications gear.

As heavy snow fell New Year's Eve on Yokota Air Base, Japan, officials there sent another C-130 to Utapao, Thailand. On Saturday, a C-17 from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., followed suit. Both carried additional equipment and supplies for the Southeast Asia effort, 374th Airlift Wing officials said.

Seven C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft have transported about 150 troops, equipment and humanitarian supplies to the forward-operating base at Utapao, which is being used as a regional airlift hub. The aircraft will remain for an indefinite period, delivering supplies to more remote locations.

The deployed airmen represent personnel from maintenance, medical, finance, aircrew and communications units. They've hauled about 49 tons of cargo and humanitarian supplies to affected regions.

"The amount of devastation is like none anyone has ever seen."

Our unique talents and training make our airmen properly suited to providing support to those who need it," Col. Doug Kreulen, the 374th Airlift Wing's vice commander, said in a news release issued Saturday.

Air Force 1st Lt. Warren Comer, a 374th Airlift Wing spokesman, said Saturday that Yokota's role in the mission would only expand as aircraft continue transiting through the base.

According to a 7th Fleet news release, the USS Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group began providing logistical support Saturday to disaster victims in the Indonesian province of Aceh.

"For the first time in this tragic situation, six SH-60F Seahawk helicopters from Lincoln are actively ferrying food and medical supplies from collection points in the Indonesian town of Banda Aceh to affected locations in Indonesia," Lt. Cmdr. John Daniels, a USS Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group spokesman, said in the release. "Additionally, these helicopters will take injured and otherwise affected people back to Banda Aceh, where they will receive necessary medical and humanitarian attention."

Navy officials expect additional support in the area in seven to 10

days. The amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard will provide aid to the region, along with elements from its expeditionary strike group including the USS Duluth, USS Millus, USS Rushmore, USS Bunker Hill, USS Thach and USCG Munro.

The strike group "carries 25 helicopters, which will be valuable to us again, in disaster relief," Marine Lt. Gen. James T. Conway, director for operations, Joint Chiefs of Staff, said last week. "There are four additional Cobras that will also be instrumental, we think, in reconnaissance efforts... The commander has also opted to move five of his pre-positioned ships out of the squadron, located in Guam. These five ships have fresh-water producing capability. Each ship can produce 90,000 gallons of fresh water a day, and of course, that'll be extremely valuable as we have a number of requests already for fresh water supply. There is a sixth ship that has a field hospital embarked aboard, that can be phased ashore, again, depending on the results of the assessment teams, and the need."

There are 2,100 Marines and 1,400 sailors embarked aboard the Bonhomme Richard Expeditionary Strike Group and 15th Ma-

rine Expeditionary Unit, Conway said.

Strong said a 43-member Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit is expected to arrive in Medan, Indonesia, within the next three days.

The team includes military and Defense Department epidemiologists, entomologists and lab technicians — with 31 from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and the remaining 12 from Japan and the U.S. mainland.

"This team will monitor water quality, food sanitation and mosquitoes," she said. "They're addressing one of the big points, and that's preventive medicine. They'll also participate in any disease-outbreak surveillance and chemical analysis. They'll carry a portable lab, so they can analyze things right out in the field. Their job is to try to work with the preventive end of it."

The total force commitment to the disaster-relief and humanitarian-assistance campaigns has not been determined, Strong said, adding that most deployment lengths are also indefinite.

"We'll stay until we're no longer needed," she said.

Fred Zimmerman and Pat Dickson contributed to this report.  
E-mail Vince Little at: little@starsandstripes.com

## U.S. ups aid to \$350M

The Associated Press

CRAWFORD, Texas — Having pledged \$350 million to help tsunami victims in South Asia, the Bush administration is focusing on the logistics of getting clean water, food and other supplies to people rebuilding their lives and burying the scores of thousands who perished.

"On this first day of a new year, we join the world in feeling enormous sadness over a great human tragedy," Bush said Saturday in his weekly radio address. "The carnage is of a scale that defies comprehension," he added.

The dollar amount of U.S. assistance could rise as the impact of the tragedy is realized, Bush said in a statement released at his Texas ranch where he and first lady Laura Bush are beginning the new year.

In New York on Friday, Secretary of State Colin Powell also said more U.S. aid could be forthcoming to help the victims of the earthquake and deadly waves that killed more than 121,000 and left 5 million homeless, with predictions the death toll could reach 150,000.

The White House Office of Management and Budget said the U.S. assistance comes from the Defense Department budget and the U.S. Agency for International Development's International Disaster Famine and Assistance account.

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# Japan pledges up to \$500M in disaster aid

BY AUDREY MCAVOY  
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan pledged up to \$500 million in grant aid for tsunami disaster relief on Saturday, Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi announced, making the country the largest single donor to victims of the catastrophe.

The promise, in a statement, said Japan would extend the aid — which includes a previous pledge of more than \$30 million — to affected countries and international organizations.

The promise pushed the world aid pledge to the disaster zone well over \$1 billion.

It also put Asia's biggest and wealthiest economy at the top of the global donor effort to help countries recover from the tsunami disaster, which has killed more than 123,000 people from Malaysia to Somalia.

Koizumi said he would attend a tsunami aid conference next week in Jakarta, Indonesia, to "express Japan's determination to extend the maximum possible assistance commensurate with its responsibilities as a fellow Asia partner."

While Japan's economy has suffered since the 1990s and Tokyo has watched China grow rapidly to rival its influence in Asia, Japan remains one of the world's second-largest economy.

Tokyo has also been eager in recent years to assume a more prominent diplomatic role that is line with its wealth. It is currently campaigning for a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council and has dispatched non-combat troops to support the U.S.-led coalitions fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Tokyo hosted several aid conferences for the reconstruction of Afghanistan since 2002 and in developing Africa.

The government has yet to work out how the funds will be dispensed, the Foreign Ministry said. The \$500 million is an upward limit on Japan's donation "for the time being," Koizumi's statement said.

Koizumi further vowed Japanese technical help in building a tsunami warning system for the countries lining the Indian Ocean.

Such a system could have triggered an evacuation of coastal areas that experts say would have saved thousands of lives.

As the Japanese origin of the word "tsunami" implies, Japan has a long history of coping with deadly quake-triggered waves. One of the earliest recorded tsunami was a wall of water that leveled a building around a giant statue of a Buddha in 1495. A devastating tsunami struck Japan in 1896, killing more than 21,000 people.

## As cleanup effort continues, tourists get back to beaches

BY MIRANDA LEITSINGER  
The Associated Press

PHUKET, Thailand — Six days after one of the worst natural disasters in decades, foreign tourists were back on the beaches of this Thai resort island Saturday, frolicking in the gentle waves of the Andaman Sea, riding jet skis, posing for snapshots and sunbathing topless on the sand.

That was mindboggling — and infuriating — for island resident Aimee Yodkaew, as she swept away debris.

"I just figure if everyone uses about an hour of their holiday time [to help clean up], this would help a lot for the locals," said Yodkaew, a Swede who lives on the island with her Thai husband.

But Yodkaew acknowledged that as soon as tourists get back to indulging in the sort of fun that was famous for before the catastrophe — the sonner her husband's sailboat and catamaran rental business will be able to start making money again.

A dozen or so foreigners were out sunbathing Saturday on Karon Beach, still littered with garbage, dead plants and leaves — a reminder of the giant waves that struck on Sunday, killing more than 4,800 people in Thailand, more than half of them foreigners.

By Saturday, more than 6,000 still were missing and feared dead.

Across southern Asia and eastern Africa more than 123,000 people died.

Along the beach, students from an international school were clearing up debris left by the waves and

stuffing it into garbage bags. The foreigners relaxed a few steps from a store with windows blown out by the giant waves.

Tourists are the lifeblood of this beautiful island in southern Thailand and this is the peak for overseas visitors, a warm, dry season coinciding with the depth of northern winters.

Thailand's resort islands, like much of the region, were a patchwork of devastation. Some hotels were wiped out, while others were untouched or minimally damaged.

"A lot of people haven't left the island, a lot of people who were there have just continued having their holidays," said John Everingham, who publishes Phuket Magazine for visiting tourists.

"Definitely less than 10 percent of hotel rooms in Phuket are closed."

By contrast, another popular but much smaller island, Phi Phi — where the 2000 Leonardo DiCaprio movie "The Beach" was filmed — was wiped out almost entirely. The worst loss of life was on the mainland north of Phuket, where more than 3,000 bodies already have been found.

The Finance Ministry estimated that the tsunami likely will shave just 0.3 of a percentage point from gross domestic product growth in 2005.

Charles Vickson, a Buddhist visiting from Hong Kong, said that at Phuket's Laguna resort, which was not badly affected by the waves, he saw bronzed European tourists return to sunbathing by the pool just minutes after the tsunami.

"They laid out their towel... and the lady, with her headphones on, resumed her sunbathing as if nothing had happened," he said.



Stephen McClure, 12, holds a sign last week along Inglewood Hill Road in Sammamish, Wash., trying to raise money to help those affected by the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster.

## Americans get creative in raising relief funds

BY JAY LINDSAY  
The Associated Press

BOSTON — A Kentucky widow, moved by the cries of grief she heard in reports about the tsunami disaster in south Asia, invited her entire town to a New Year's Eve bash to raise money for the victims.

In California, a college offered free basketball tickets, with a gift for relief efforts the only price of admission.

A group of children in a Seattle suburb stood out in the rain offering "Hot Chocolate for Tidal Wave Relief!" and raised \$255.

In ways large and small, people around the country have found ways to help victims of one of history's worst natural disasters.

"I can say the outpouring has been amazing," said Coco McCabe, a spokeswoman for the Oxford International relief agency. "Even though it's happening on the other side of the world, it feels so close."

Oxford said Friday it had received almost \$6 million in unsolicited donations since the disaster on Dec. 26. The American Red

Cross reported almost \$44 million in donations from Americans by Thursday evening.

Three brothers ages 3 to 7 each dropped off sandwich bags containing a few dollars at the Mile High chapter of the Red Cross in Denver, according to spokesman Robert Thompson. The same chapter also accepted a \$50,000 donation from a man who requested anonymity.

A group of children in Sammamish, Wash., a suburb of Seattle, stood in steady rain Wednesday selling hot chocolate to fight the chill. Eleven-year-old Thomas Wilson said he couldn't get the rising death toll of his mind "It's so horrid, so terrible — such a huge loss of family. And I couldn't do anything about it." He said. "Then I did this hot chocolate stand and it made me feel better."

Kids elsewhere around the country were similarly moved.

In New York City, six children ages 12 to 18 worked late Thursday and early Friday to make dozens of cookies, brownies and cupcakes for a door-to-door bake sale organized by Do Something, a youth service group.

## Reports of child rapes follow tsunami

BY SHIMALI SENANAYAKE  
The Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — A teenager who escaped death but was left orphaned and homeless by the Asian tsunami met yet one more agony: gang rape. He said he was one of several cases of child abuse being investigated in the disaster zone, an official said Saturday.

Of all the human tragedies emerging from the worst natural disaster in decades, sexual abuse of vulnerable children in refugee camps must be among the most shocking.

But experts say it's not uncommon in times of conflict and trauma.

"When there is displacement and chaos, the possibility of this type of behavior is higher," said Harendra de Silva, head of the National Child Protection Authority.

With nearly 1 million losing their homes, Sri Lanka has im-

mediate concerns of survival, rolling out relief trucks as cargo planes ferry food, drinking water and medical supplies from donor nations.

But psychological and behavioral problems are certain to become more important as the authorities gain control over the life-threatening issues.

De Silva said his governmental agency already is investigating several complaints of sexual abuse in centers housing tens of thousands of survivors.

So far, the cases of suspected abuse have been isolated. But officials are concerned that the trauma of the catastrophe, coupled with the close quarters in the refugee centers, could spawn many more cases.

"In the aftermath of displacement and shock you do see an increase of abuse and violence against women and children,"

said Ted Chaiban, head of the U.N. children's agency in Colombo.

He said UNICEF was funding the survey by de Silva's group to identify abused children and provide them with extra protection.

Sexual crimes were an aspect of Sri Lanka's 20-year-long ethnic war. Women's activists said they had frequent reports of Sinhalese soldiers raping Tamil women, although few were prosecuted. Tamil rebels have been fighting for independence in the northern and eastern provinces, claiming discrimination by the majority Sinhalese who dominate the government.

De Silva gave few details of the case of the gang-raped 17-year-old girl, which occurred in the area of Galle on the southern coast but not in a refugee center. Hours after being washed ashore and left orphaned and homeless, she was raped by six men, he said.

# Fire kills 175 in Argentina nightclub

## More than 700 injured; mayor says locked exit doors likely kept many from escaping

By KEVIN GRAY  
The Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Authorities were searching Saturday for the business partners of a Buenos Aires nightclub owner after a fire that killed 175 people and injured hundreds after survivors said the building's emergency exits were locked.

Club owner Omar Chaban was detained Friday and was expected to face questioning by a federal judge in the coming days about the disaster, which happened late Thursday.

Meanwhile, families and city officials continued to work to identify victims and the injured. For a second straight day, workers posted lists of people being treated on walls outside the city's hospitals, where families gathered for news of their loved ones.

Investigators said they believed one of Argentina's worst disasters began when a flare was

fired during a rock concert, igniting the foam ceiling of a club crowded mostly with teenagers.

Another 74 people were injured in the blaze, which set off a stampede for the exits as the concert hall filled with thick, black smoke. At least 102 people were reported to be in critical condition, said Julio Salinas, an official with the Buenos Aires emergency services department.

The fire tore through the Cromagnon Republic nightclub, where the Argentine rock band Los Callejeros was playing to a crowd of 4,000 people. News reports said the nightclub had a capacity of 1,500 people.

Witnesses described chaotic scenes of people rushing for the doors amid burning debris, their vision blurred by thick smoke that also blocked out emergency lighting. Other witnesses told of people struggling to force open the doors.

A 22-year-old survivor who gave his name only as Andres said surging crowds pushed their way toward several of the club's six doors but found some of them wouldn't open.

"Once the fire erupted, everyone ran for the doors, but there was only one very narrow one open at the exit closest to us. Another wider door next to it was locked," he said.

Buenos Aires Mayor Anibal Ibarra said four of the building's doors — including two emergency exits — were either tied shut with wire or locked with padlocks in an apparent attempt to prevent people from entering without paying.

"Had they been open, we surely would have avoided a lot of deaths," he said, calling the locked doors an "irresponsible act."

"It seems they were condemned to a terrible trap," said Interior Minister Anibal Fernandez.



Grieving family members react after finding their loved ones in the morgue of a local hospital. A fire swept through a crowded nightclub during a rock concert Friday in Buenos Aires, Argentina, killing 175 people and leaving more than 700 injured.

## Abbas welcomed enthusiastically by Rafah gunmen

By IBRAHIM BARZAK  
The Associated Press

RAFAH REFUGEE CAMP, Gaza Strip — Dozens of gunmen gave a warm welcome to interim Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas on Saturday, hoisting him on their shoulders and pledging loyalty to his campaign for the Palestinian presidency.

The gunmen were among tens of thousands of people who greet Abbas in Rafah, a teeming camp in southern Gaza that has seen some of the heaviest fighting during the past four years of Israeli-Palestinian violence.

The camp was decorated with large posters of Abbas, and the crowd was in such a frenzy that Abbas was forced to leave an indoor campaign rally through the window of the building.

"Rafah suffers from oppression and occupation, but it will not be defeated and humiliated and will not back down except after victory and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, with Jerusalem as its capital," Abbas told the cheering crowd.

Abbas, the front-runner in the Jan. 9 presidential election, has been courting armed groups in recent days, even though he has spoken out against violence and called for a negotiated settlement with Israel. The campaigning has prompted questions about whether Abbas is playing campaign politics or identifying with violent groups.

Abbas, who lives in the West Bank, traveled to Gaza this week to mark the 40th anniversary of the ruling Fatah movement. On Jan. 1, 1965, Fatah carried out its first attack on an Israeli target — an explosion at a water tower in which one Fatah member was killed and a second arrested.

Abbas' convoy was stopped by the group of gunmen as it entered Rafah on Saturday. Abbas, also known as Abu Mazen, got out of his car and made his way through the ecstatic crowd.

The gunmen, members of the Al Qasba Martyrs' Brigades, a violent group with ties to Abbas' ruling Fatah party, placed an Arab headdress on his shoulder



Interim Palestinian leader and presidential front-runner Mahmoud Abbas, center, waves to supporters as he steps from his motorcade Saturday during a visit to the Rafah refugee camp, southern Gaza Strip.

ders and chanting "with our blood and souls, we will redeem you Abu Mazen." The gunmen hoisted Abbas on their shoulders and carried him through the crowd before he headed into a nearby hall to deliver his speech.

At the rally, Abbas praised the residents of Rafah. Israeli troops frequently operate in the area, trying to halt weapons smugglers who work along the Egyptian border.

"The killing and assassinations and the bulldozing did not prevent us from visiting Rafah... the steadfast Rafah," Abbas said.

Abbas repeatedly praised longtime Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who died on Nov. 11. Both men were among the founders of the Fatah movement.

"Today we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the revolution begun by Abu Ammar," he said, referring to Arafat. "We will continue until a Palestinian boy and girl place a Palestinian flag over the walls and minarets of Jerusalem," he said.

## Handicapped Polish teen reaches pole-to-pole goal

The Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — A handicapped Polish teenager reached the South Pole on Friday after a 120-mile trek, achieving his goal of making it to both ends of the Earth within a calendar year, a spokeswoman said.

Janek Mela, 16, who lost his right arm and left leg in an accident two years ago, reached the pole with two companions with whom he set off Dec. 17, said Justyna Slivicka, who talked to the expedition's leader over a satellite phone.

"They are happy they made it, but very tired and they need sleep," Slivicka said.

Mela set a record in April by becoming the youngest and most severely handicapped person to reach the North Pole, when he trekked some 90 miles in forbidding weather, she said.

Leading both trips was Marek Kaminski, a businessman who reached both ends of the globe in solo trips in 1996 and 1997. A cameraman also was part of the team.

## S. Korea extends troop deployment to Iraq

The Associated Press

SEOUL — South Korea's parliament on Friday approved extending the mission of its 3,600 troops in Iraq for another year.

The National Assembly approved the plan in a 161-63 vote with 54 abstentions just before the troops' previous mandate in Iraq expired at midnight.

South Korea completed deploying its forces to the Kurdish town of Irbil last month, becoming the third-largest contributor of troops to the coalition after the United States and Britain. The South Korean contingent is not involved in combat operations and consists mostly of engineers and medics who repair roads and offer free medical services.

The deployment to Iraq has been sensitive, and the South Korean government called for a news blackout on the troops' movements as they arrived in Iraq, citing security concerns. In early December, President Roh Moo-hyun made a surprise visit to Irbil to encourage the soldiers.

The Seoul government decided in November to extend the deployment for another year until the end of 2005, but that move required parliamentary approval. The vote was delayed repeatedly this month while lawmakers argued over a series of unrelated reform bills.

Also Friday, lawmakers approved the national budget for next year ahead of the midnight deadline.



# Vigils and prayers usher in the New Year

BY JOHN LEICESTER  
The Associated Press

PARIS — Prayers and candle-light vigils were substituted for parties across Asia, while Paris draped black cloths along the Champs-Elysees.

From Europe to Africa, the joy celebrating the leap into 2005 was clouded by the sheer scope of last week's earthquake and tsunami tragedy, which killed more than 123,000 people in Asia and Africa and left millions of others homeless.

"Never has the step into a new year felt heavier," said Swedish

Prime Minister Goeran Persson, who urged Swedes to light candles in their windows as a vigil. "We should have celebrated with fireworks and festivities. Now that feels completely wrong."

In tsunami-battered Thailand, hundreds of mourners — many clutching white roses and candles — gathered in the resort of Phuket to remember lost loved ones and friends.

Paul Foley, a native of Essex, England, who lives in Chaleng, Thailand, said he believed people around the world would "spend a few moments ... thinking kind of differently."

In Europe, thousands were struggling with the loss of loved ones and friends. The confirmed death tolls for many European countries were in the double digits, but officials warned the final tallies would be in the hundreds or even thousands. For Sweden alone, 2,500 tourists were still missing, while Switzerland was waiting to hear from some 700 and the French reported at least 118 disappeared.

Many of the estimated 1 million revelers around the glittering, firework-illuminated harbor in Sydney, Australia, also marked a moment of silence for victims.

"You could tell people were a little more reverent tonight; it was kept in people's thoughts," British tourist Mark Stiles said.

Stores in major German cities reported a decline in sales of fireworks following appeals from Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and others for money usually spent on pyrotechnics to be donated to relief agencies.

Chancellor Wolfgang Schuessel of Austria also urged people to forgo fireworks. The city of Innsbruck canceled its display in a silent vigil for 40 residents of the western Austrian province of

Tyrol who remain missing in Asia. Mayor Hilde Zach called the decision "a sign of solidarity" to mark "the great loss of human life."

In Paris, 480 scar-like strips of black cloth hung along the Champs-Elysees and on light posts at the nearby Place de la Concorde — a deliberately discreet but poignant gesture to victims.

"This night cannot be ordinary because of this mourning affecting the entire planet," Deputy Mayor Anne Hidalgo said.

Many Asians were too busy counting the dead, feeding survivors and combating disease to even think about partying.



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# Allawi warns neighbors to halt insurgents

Iraq's patience running out, he tells Syria, Iran

BY BASSEM MROUE

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — At least three roadside bombs targeted Iraqi security troops Saturday, a day after Prime Minister Ayad Allawi warned Iraq's neighbors to crack down on insurgents infiltrating from their territory, saying that Iraq's patience was wearing thin.

Al-Qaida, meanwhile, claimed responsibility for a bold attack on U.S. troops.

Iraqi officials have repeatedly accused Syria and Iran of supporting the insurgents waging a campaign of violence against American forces and Allawi's U.S.-backed government. Both countries have denied helping militants or allowing them to cross their borders into Iraq.

Allawi's comments Friday to Baghdad's Al-Iraqiya television were among his toughest yet. "Some countries are hosting people who are involved in harming the Iraqi people," he said, without naming any nations. "Harming Iraq and its people is not allowed."



**Iraq's interim prime minister, Ayad Allawi, speaks at a news conference in Baghdad. Allawi delivered an unusually strong warning to neighboring countries to crack down on insurgents infiltrating from their territory.**

He said his government had contacted the countries and was waiting for their reply. "According to the answers we will decide what the next step will be," he said.

"Iraq is not a weak country. Iraq is passing through a difficult period but Iraq can respond in a strong way if needed," he said. "Patience has limits and it is beginning to run out."

In new violence, a U.S. Marine assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force was killed in action Friday during security operations in the Al Anbar Province, the Marines said in a statement, which did not provide any other details.

A roadside bomb explosion struck an Iraqi National Guard patrol south of Mahmoudiya, a town about 25 miles south of Baghdad. It left one guard dead and six wounded, an ING officer said Saturday.

Another bomb went off while a U.S. military convoy was driving through southern Baghdad's Dora district on Saturday, witnesses said. The blast damaged nearby shops, but apparently caused no casualties.

In the town of Yousifiya, just south of Baghdad, another bomb exploded early Saturday, wounding two guardsmen who were on patrol, police said.

In Baghdad's western neighborhood of Adl, police found two beheaded bodies on a main street Saturday, witnesses said. Police said they couldn't identify the victims.

Iraqi forces on Friday discovered and cleared four improvised explosive devices and five weapons caches and detained 122 suspected insurgents, the U.S. military said Saturday. The sweep appeared to be the latest in a series of anti-insurgency operations in

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Friday, at least 1,328 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

At least 1,042 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said.

The figures include three military civilians. The department did not provide an update Friday.

The British military has reported 76 deaths, Italy, 19; Poland, 16; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when Pres-

ident Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,190 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count.

That includes at least 933 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers as of Thursday.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ No deaths reported.

The latest identifications reported by the Defense Department:

■ Army Pfc. Oscar Sanchez, 19, Modesto, Calif.; died Wednesday in Mosul, Iraq, when an explosive struck his observation post, assigned to 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, Wash.

the so-called Sunni Triangle in central Iraq.

Al-Qaida in Iraq, led by the country's most wanted terrorist, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, claimed responsibility for a well-coordinated attack Wednesday on a U.S. post in the northern city of Mosul. The U.S. military said one American soldier and 25 insurgents

were killed in the battle.

The militants, however, claimed they had suffered no casualties. "We, al-Qaida in Iraq, claim responsibility for the battles of Mosul, may God cleanse it from the impurities of the infidels," said a statement posted on a Web site that often carries militant claims.

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# Punk rockers help ring in new year in Iraq

BY NICK WADHAMS  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Two years ago, Saddam Hussein could not have imagined in his wildest nightmares that on New Year's Eve 2004 he would be sitting in a jail cell and a punk band known for albums titled "Hitler Bad, Vandals Good" and "Look What I Almost Stepped In" would be playing in the heart of his former empire.

But so it was that the Army's 1st Cavalry Division, 3rd Brigade, got a one-hour show by Southern California punk peripherals The Vandals, who delighted a small mosh pit in the Green Zone with favorites including "Ol' to the World" and "Anarchy Burger," the ditty that earned them brief worldwide fame (and \$22,000) when it was quoted in the 2002 Vin Diesel movie "XXX."

The show was one of the few entertainments provided for U.S. troops in Iraq on New Year's Eve, a day marked chiefly by a relative lull in violence. There were no fireworks, though a few officers on bases were still spruced up with holiday decorations. A nighttime curfew kept Iraqis off the street and Baghdad echoed mostly with the sound of helicopters running frequent patrols over downtown.

"It's pretty cool to be asked to come out and go right in the middle of it — it's like

*"It's pretty cool to be asked to come out and go right in the middle of it — it's like we stepped inside our television."*

Joe Escalante  
Vandals bassist

we stepped inside our television," Vandals bassist Joe Escalante, wearing the flak jacket he borrowed from the Army for the tour, said before the show.

While many soldiers sat in the dusty, darkened theater staring in bemusement as The Vandals played their extremely loud set, a handful of die-hards reverted to their happier American ways and jostled each other in true slam style in the impromptu mosh pit.

"This is straight up one of the few times I get to go out and beat people up, but it's a friendly atmosphere so we were not getting beat up too bad," said Pfc. Russell Holt, 20, a medic from Tampa, Florida. "These guys are up there with Superchunk."

The Vandals, who gained popularity in the 1990s for blending a sharp sense of humor with their punk riffs, mixed it up with a few three-chord ditties, speed versions of Queen's "Don't Stop Me Now" and "Summer Nights" from the musical Grease, and the theme song of "Team

America: World Police." "America, (Expletive) Yeah!"

The set earned the praise of Matthew Linus Byars, a 31-year-old medic from Nashville, Tenn., and self-proclaimed punk rocker for 18 years. He stomped through the mosh pit and stood before lead Vandals singer Dave Quackenbush, bobbing his head in rapture.

"There aren't many real punk rockers in the Army," Byars said.

"I just kind of blew off Christmas as another day of work but this was really special to me," he said. "It was one of those if I'm on duty I'll trade anybody to be here this afternoon."

The Vandals are on a two-week tour in which they've played eight shows at several bases and will go to Kuwait on Saturday for one more show before heading back to the States.

Celebrity visitors for every taste have touched foot in Iraq since the war began. Troops have chuckled to Robin Williams

and Rob Schneider. Pro wrestler Diamond Dallas Page taught soldiers a few moves, while pro fisherman Ray Scott, affectionately known as the "Bass Boss," has cast lines into the Tigris River.

The Vandals admitted they don't have the drawing power of such Iraq visitors as Toby Keith, Cincinnati baseball legend Rob Dibble or the Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders. But they said they were pleased with the crowds they got from an entertainment-starved military.

"You rock out to the band you have, not the band you wish you had," guitarist Warren Fitzgerald said, riffing off of Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's comments to troops in Kuwait who had complained the Army isn't getting enough armor.

Otherwise, there were few major events planned for New Year's Eve. Chow halls served a special menu and troops were allowed nonalcoholic beer at a few bases. But there were no big-ticket visitors as there were for Christmas Eve, when Rumsfeld stopped at Fallujah and comedian David Letterman filmed "The Late Show" from Camp Taqadum.

"It's work today, work tomorrow. We're here to work," said Specialist Joe Killo, 22, a military policeman from Columbia, Md.

"Iraqis don't celebrate our holidays, so we can't put the war on holiday."

## Schoomaker wears flag patch differently for new test uniform

BY LISA BURGESS  
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — When Gen. Peter Schoomaker visited troops in Iraq last week, an alert reader noticed he was wearing sleeve patches the opposite of how they were told to put them on.

The Army chief of staff had his U.S. flag patch above his combat patch, contrary to Army regulations.

The reader sent an e-mail to Stars and Stripes: Had Army regulations changed?

No, said Army spokesman Lt. Col. Bryan Hilferty. Schoomaker is wearing the digital camouflage test uniform.

In February, Schoomaker directed soldiers to wear the flag patch on the right shoulder of their battle dress uniform, or BDU — sewn below the combat patch, if they had one, so soldiers didn't have to rip a patch off and re-sew it on, only lower.

The new BDUs have Velcro fields on both arms to eliminate

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker is wearing the digital camouflage test uniform.

the sewing of rank and patches.

The regulations governing the wearing of those BDUs, including the mandatory adoption phase-in date for the entire Army, "will be released within the next several weeks," Hilferty wrote.

E-mail Lisa Burgess at: [burgessl@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:burgessl@stripes.osd.mil)

## Afghans arrest suspect in August car bombing

KABUL, Afghanistan — Security forces have arrested the suspected organizer of the deadly car bombing of a U.S. security firm in the Afghan capital and believe he was acting on the orders of al-Qaida, an Afghan official said Saturday.

The man, a Tajik national called Mohammed Haidar, confessed his leading role in the Aug. 29 car-bomb attack, which killed about 10 people, including three Americans, Afghan state television reported.

Haidar also admitted organizing a suicide attack on a Kabul shopping street on Oct. 23, the TV report said.

From The Associated Press

## Troops in Afghanistan welcome 2005



Soldiers of U.S. Combined Forces Command dance during a New Year's celebration at their base in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Saturday.

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## IN THE STATES

# Revelry and reflection at Times Square

## Global tragedies leave partiers counting blessings as new year begins

BY DESMOND BUTLER

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Nearly a million revelers celebrated the 100th annual New Year's countdown in Times Square amid a storm of confetti and fireworks, the festive mood broken only by a moment of silence to honor those killed in the earthquake and tsunami in South Asia.

Treated to temperatures in the low 50s and watched over by teams of armed police officers, the crowd broke into a chorus of "Auld Lang Syne" after the 1,000-pound crystal ball made its yearly trek down a pole atop 1 Times Square on Friday night.

Many in the crowd gathered handfuls of confetti as it fell — some 3,000 pounds in all — and tossed it into the air again, cheering and kissing loved ones.

"We've never come such a long way from home, but it's been really worth it," said Tracy Bartz, 32, of Channahon, Ill.

"They put our picture on the jumbotron," her boyfriend, Andy Kelleher, 40, added with a smile. The two had camped out in Times Square since 11 a.m. to make sure they got a prime view of the ball.

Police said there were few disruptions. Early Friday evening, police arrested a man who was found carrying a loaded rifle at 1 Penn Plaza, a few blocks from Times Square. The incident briefly closed 33rd Street, but most revelers didn't notice.



Monica Perez, left, and Jeannie Rowells, both of Chicago, cheer as midnight approaches at Times Square in New York. Nearly a million people packed in to watch the ball drop.

Four other people were arrested for disorderly conduct, said Detective Eric Crisafi, a police spokesman.

Many of those gathered were dressed only in sweaters and light jackets as temperatures hovered around 50 degrees well into the night.

Outgoing Secretary of State Colin Powell, a native New Yorker, pressed a giant

button with Mayor Michael Bloomberg to begin the ball's descent at 11:59 p.m. Later, the two sang "New York, New York" and "America" with the crowd.

At midnight, a 2-minute city-sanctioned pyrotechnic display lit the sky as revelers shook balloons and cheered. Entertainment earlier in the night included live music by Lindsay Lohan and Duran

Duran, all setting the stage for Powell's moment.

"In my lifetime I've served in many places around the world, and wherever I happened to be the turn of the year just didn't feel right unless I had in some way seen or heard about the ball coming down on time," he said during a press conference Friday.

The crowd paused at 8:15 p.m. to honor victims of the tsunami in South Asia.

"I think we all have to look in the mirror tonight before we go to bed and recognize just how lucky we are and that not everyone else is so lucky," Bloomberg said.

Many revelers said the South Asian tragedy would be on their minds as the new year dawned.

"You still have to remember what's going on in the world because it affects everybody and it should affect the celebration," said Chris Lawrence, 21, of Newburgh, N.Y. "We should remember how fortunate we are for everything we have over here."

For the first time in 32 years, the celebration went on without TV personality-producer Dick Clark, who was recovering from a stroke. Daytime talk show host Regis Philbin was filling in for the 75-year-old Clark on ABC-TV's "New Year's Rockin' Eve."

Philbin called it "the greatest temp job in the world."

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## New Calif. law allows gay couples benefits as domestic partners

BY LISA LEFF

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Like many gay couples, Brian Cornell and Alberto Rulloda long ago established a legal framework for their relationship to match their commitment to each other.

They drew up wills naming the other as beneficiary, property agreements and powers of attorney, among other documents. The couple of 27 years wanted to spell out the specifics that they would have been presumed if they were married.

Come Saturday, such improvised arrangements will be less necessary for them and nearly 29,000 other California couples — the majority same-sex partners. A law taking effect with the new year gives gay couples who register as domestic partners nearly the same responsibilities and benefits as married spouses. Heterosexual elderly couples also are eligible.

Same-sex couples in California for the first time will have access to divorce court for dividing their assets, seeking alimony and securing child support. They also will have automatic parental status over children born during the relationship and responsibility for each other's debts.

It guarantees domestic partners a say over what happens to their loved one's remains at death

and means they cannot be forced to testify against each other in state courts.

"It won't be as good as marriage because we are talking about a thousand-plus federal benefits that won't be covered," Cornell said. "But a start's a start, progress is progress."

Many gay rights advocates say the domestic partner law heralds a hopeful new era of legal recognition and participation for gay men and lesbians. They hope that is particularly true for those raising children or without the money to pay lawyers to prepare the previously recommended paperwork.

One indication of the growing acceptance comes from the California Department of Health Services, which is updating its birth certificates to replace the lines for "mother" and "father" with the gender-neutral "parent" and "parent." Until now, hospitals have hand-altered the forms, and couples have needed a court order for the changes to be approved.

Two groups opposed to marriage rights for gay couples have challenged the law, claiming it violates the intent of a 2000 ballot initiative approved by voters that holds only unions between a man and a woman as valid in the state.

The California Court of Appeal has agreed to hear the case early in the year.

# Murder rates decrease in large cities in 2004

BY TOM HAYS

The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Big cities were less deadly places to live in 2004 as murder rates declined in several urban areas, including New York, Chicago and Washington, D.C., according to a survey by The Associated Press.

Officials in New York and Chicago credit the drop to crime-fighting strategies that included putting more officers on the street and beefing up patrols in dangerous neighborhoods.

"We really targeted gangs, drugs and guns," Chicago police spokesman Pat Camden said. "Technology enabled us to take our gang tactical units and put them in places where we anticipated violence, areas where narcotics trafficking was bold and blatant."

There were 445 homicides in Chicago as of Thursday, compared with 600 in all of 2003, police said. That is a decrease of about 25 percent, and would mark the first year since 1965 the city finished with fewer than 500 murders.

The high mark was in 1992, when there were 940.

Exceptions to the trend were St. Louis, Detroit and Baltimore, where killings were up after steady declines.

The overall results were consistent with official FBI statistics for the first six months of 2004, which showed a nearly 6 percent fall in murders for the nation.

In New York, the murder total was 565 as of Thursday, from 596 in 2003. The total appeared certain to remain below 600 for the third year in a row — levels comparable to the early 1960s. New York saw a slight increase in murders in 2003.

Experts agree that police deserve credit for driving down murders. But they add that other factors — including a growing adult population less prone to violence — are in play.

"They're doing their part to bring down the murder rate by not getting older," said James Alan Fox, a criminal justice professor at Northeastern University.

Elsewhere, Washington was on track to see one of its lowest mur-

der rates in recent years. Through Monday, homicides totaled 193, compared with 240 at the same point in 2003.

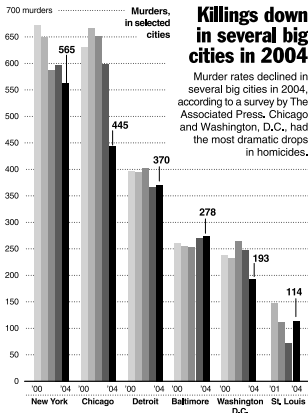
Other cities reporting decreases in homicides were Las Vegas, Miami, Phoenix and Philadelphia, while numbers in Los Angeles and San Diego were about even with last year.

The steepest increase was in St. Louis, where through Thursday murders were up 56 percent — to 114 from 73. But police say the total still is the third-lowest in nearly 40 years, and argue that a campaign to tame a dangerous drug trade is working.

"It's still a pretty good number historically for this city, but I think we can do better," Police Chief Joe Moksa said of this year's results.

Killings also were up in Detroit to 384, including one early Friday, from a total of 366 in 2003. But police view the total favorably considering the year started with a rash of killings that drove the murder rate up 50 percent through April.

Police spokesman James Tate said the department reversed the



## Killings down in several big cities in 2004

Murder rates declined in several big cities in 2004, according to a survey by The Associated Press. Chicago and Washington, D.C., had the most dramatic drops in homicides.

SOURCES: AP survey; FBI, Uniform Crime Reporting Program; Census Bureau

trend in part by "putting the crunch on illegal narcotics," an effort that resulted in the confiscation of \$74 million in drugs.

A violent drug trade also has fueled an increase in slayings in Baltimore and amid continuing turmoil in police leadership, officials said.

The city had logged 278 murders through Thursday, compared with 271 at the same time last year.

Acting Police Commissioner Leonard Hamm said the department has emphasized cracking down on gun offenders.

# California and Nevada reeling from winter storms

The Associated Press

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** — An unrelenting storm brought more rain and snow to Southern California on Friday, while residents in the Sierra Nevada dug out from as much as 8 feet of snow.

More wet weather was expected through the New Year's week — for most of the state, giving skiers mountains of fresh snow — but dangerous driving conditions to get there.

Storms this week have battered California, Arizona, Nevada and Colorado.

Three to 4 feet of snow have already fallen on Nevada mountains and as much as a foot of snow came down in the mountains of Colorado. At least nine people have died.

In Southern California, the National Weather Service posted winter storm warnings and flood advisories through Friday evening.

Heavy rain pounded Santa Barbara, Ventura and Los Angeles counties, with up to an inch of rain an hour falling in western Los Angeles County by midmorning. Los Angeles had almost 1.2 inches by midmorning, giving it more than 8 inches for the week.

Snow was falling over Tejon Pass on Interstate 5, the main artery linking Los Angeles to the Central Valley and Northern California.

In the Sierra, up to 8 feet of snow had fallen since Thursday, temporarily shutting down the main highways to Lake Tahoe-area ski resorts and snarl-

ing holiday traffic.

An avalanche warning was posted for backcountry ski areas from Yuba Pass to Sonora Pass.

The snowfall in Reno was the heaviest in that part of Nevada in more than a decade, as snow forced the airport to shut down Thursday night for only the second time in 40 years, a spokesman said.

A break in the storm allowed Interstate 80 and U.S. 50 to reopen Friday after being closed off and on for more than a day; the highways connect Sacramento, Calif., to the Reno-Tahoe area.

Another band of storms was forecast Saturday in Northern California and remain into Sunday, said weather service meteorologist Daniel Hart.

Five people have died in the

storms in California since Monday.

In Arizona, searchers recovered two bodies believed to be those of college students who had vanished when their canoe capsized.

Two nationally known wildlife

experts, Tom Thorne and Beth Williams, of Albany County, Wyo., died Wednesday when their pickup hit a jackknifed trailer on U.S. 287 in northern Colorado.

The husband-and-wife veterinarians were experts on brucellosis and chronic wasting disease.

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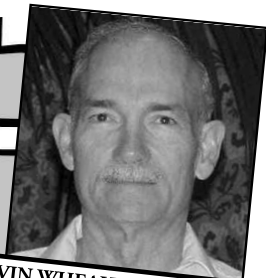
# University of Maryland University College

Since UMUC began offering classes in Asia almost 50 years ago, its greatest single strength has been the quality of its faculty. Here are brief profiles of three of our faculty members who teach regularly in Japan.



## PAMELA CARLTON

Dr. Carlton is a veteran of UMUC overseas, in both Europe and Asia, and has taught in Germany, Spain, Belgium, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Italy, Iceland, Egypt, Japan, Okinawa, and Korea. She holds a B.A. in psychology and a Ph.D. in clinical and community psychology, both from the University of South Carolina at Columbia, and is a licensed clinical psychologist. Dr. Carlton taught at Columbia College in South Carolina, Midlands Technical College and the Medical University of South Carolina. Her professional experience includes more than ten years in private practice, and positions in such areas as parent and child development; individual, family and group psychotherapy; and mental disability determination.

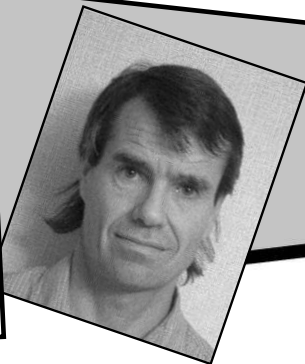


## MERVIN WHEALY

Dr. Whealy earned a B.A. and M.A. in education from Fresno State College, an M.Div. from Southeastern Baptist Seminary, an M.A. in history from Wake Forest University, and a Ph.D. Santa Barbara. Experienced with UMUC, he initially joined the Asian Division, later taught in Europe, and rejoined UMUC in Asia in 1993. He has taught at several other institutions including Chapman College, Hancock College, Orange Coast College, Santa Ana College and the University of Nevada at Reno, as well as Towson State University in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Whealy has taught for UMUC at numerous locations in Germany, Italy, the Azores, Japan, Korea, Kwajalein, and Okinawa.

## JOHN KLOCK

Mr. Klock holds a B.S. in range management from Colorado State University, and an M.A. in international affairs, with specialization in Southeast Asia, and an M.S. in botany, both from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. He has taught at Ohio University, and at the secondary level. Mr. Klock has extensive employment and research experience in the Philippines, where he was a Peace Corps volunteer and participated in the development of an environmental awareness program. He also has served with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management in Colorado and Wyoming. He has several publications; some of his research has focused on forest management practices among the Ifugao tribal group in the Philippines. Mr. Klock first taught with the Asian Division from 1993 to 1997, at sites in Korea and Okinawa. He rejoined the faculty in 1999 and again in 2002, teaching in Misawa, Iwakuni, and Sasebo, and since 1999 in the UMUC distance education program.



For further background on these and other faculty members, and a wide range of information on courses and programs, check the UMUC Asia Web site at:

<http://www.ad.umuc.edu>

# Term III classes begin January 17.



JOE GROMELSON/Stars and Stripes

From left: Marine Corps Pfc. Jeff Sanders, of Millmont, Pa., sits with his mother at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.; Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Dale Beatty, of North Carolina, shows off a bracelet like the ones members of his unit back in Iraq are selling to help his family; Marine Corp Cpl. Mark O'Brien of Buffalo, N.Y., paints a model car at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

# They would do it again, no matter the cost

## Wounded troops' first wish is to get back to battlefield

BY LEO SHANE III  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Pfc. Jeff Sanders lost his left leg three months ago when his Humvee struck a roadside bomb about 30 miles south of Baghdad.

If the Marines would let him, the 22-year-old would gladly risk his other leg, too.

"There is absolutely nothing else I'd rather do than get back out there," he said. "To be back with the unit, if it meant I could save one of their lives, I'd lose the other leg. I'd do it all over again."

"You don't realize how much you care for those guys until you're not there with them," Sanders said most of the soldiers he has met at Walter Reed Army Medical Center also want to get back to the battlefield and, more importantly, back with their units. Despite the trauma of their injuries, most would return to danger if they could.

"I feel like I'm failing them," said Pfc. Joe Ramsey, a 20-year-old who lost his right arm during a car bomb attack in the Sunni Triangle. "I know I shouldn't feel that way, but I do. And this place isn't the real Army..."

Ramsey's unit was in Korea for almost a year before deploying to Iraq; he joked that the guys were getting a "bad reputation" for their loud parties while off duty.

Now, during his down time at the hospital, he tries to call them between shifts, but only gets to talk to them every few days.

Staff Sgt. Dale Beatty, 26, had been squad leader with his North Carolina Army National Guard unit for almost eight years before he lost both legs in February.

His unit has been selling bracelets made of rope to raise funds for his recovery, and has raised about \$3,000 so far. He wears one too, and tugs at it every time he talks about them.



Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Joe L. Bowser, of Kentucky, moves through the halls at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

"When I would go on leave, just for 15 days, I would feel guilty and need to be reunited with the guys," he said. "Now, I just want to get back with my guys."

Physical therapy provides some relief for soldiers like Beatty, who approaches his daily exercises like an assigned mission.

Since a rocket attack took Staff Sgt. Joe L. Bowser's right leg in April, his rehabilitation has included going skiing several times on a prosthetic limb. The 45-year-old knows all the staff in the physical therapy department and teases other patients around him for not having "real" injuries.

But when he talks about the soldiers still in Iraq, his excited, booming voice softens. "Most of them were a lot younger than me, so it was like being with my kids," Bowser said. "My battle buddy was 18 years old, and she reminded me of my daughter."

## Bonds soldiers develop are very strong

WASHINGTON — Experts say a soldier's desire to return to the battlefield, even after a serious injury, is not surprising.

Leonard Wong, a professor of military strategy at the U.S. Army War College, said the main concern of soldiers on the battlefield is keeping their friends safe.

Even if they have been hurt, they still have that sense of duty to their unit.

"They feel a social obligation with their friends," he said. "It's a responsibility that the group has put on them, to go out there and fight."

In a 2003 study of soldiers shortly after the end of major combat operations in Iraq, Wong found that while some soldiers fight because of a sense of larger political ideals, the primary motivation for most is simply keeping themselves and their fellow troops safe.

His makeshift Reserve unit trained for only a month before they entered Iraq last January, but he considers them a second family.

"You get close quick," the 45-year-old said. "They tell me they don't want me back out there, because I already did enough for them. But it's hard."

"When I got hurt, I was having more problems with not being with them than I was dealing with my lost leg."

The Department of Defense has made efforts in recent months to return wounded soldiers to active duty, even close to the battlefield. Col. Daniel Garvey, deputy commander of the Army's physical disability agency, said greater numbers of seriously wounded soldiers are returning to service because of a new emphasis on the experience and inspiration they can bring to units.

Navy medic Jose Ramos lost his left hand in a shoulder-fired rocket attack, but after six months of treatments he has been approved to return to duty in the coming

weeks. He said even those he met who had suffered significant trauma — like losing a close friend in battle — wanted to stay to help keep others safe.

"When I talked to officers their No. 1 fear was always losing somebody," he said. "It's not just about self-survival."

Dr. Paul Hanges, an organizational psychologist at University of Maryland, said the desire to return to the battlefield, even after a horrific injury, shows how strong the bonds soldiers develop with each other can be.

"They may have been shot, but they see their buddies still back on the line," Hanges said. "Even after a stressful and life-threatening situation, they want to go help them."

— Leo Shane

He will likely serve at stations outside Iraq, which is not as close to the front lines as he would have liked.

"I've been ready to go back since the day I was hurt," the 24-year-old said. "I love the field, and I love being out there helping the Marines."

But the others know they likely won't get the same opportunity.

Ramsey has already talked to Army officials about continuing his military career in some way, although he admits it won't be anything like his combat service.

Cpl. Mark O'Brien, 22, lost his right arm in an ambush in April and has decided to go back to college instead. He isn't happy with the decision.

"I wish I could go back and fight with my friends," he said, his voice shaking. "You can ask pretty much anyone in here and they'll tell you they want to go back."

"But it's time for me to move on. It's just thought not to be there with them."

E-mail Leo Shane at: shanel@stripes.osd.mil



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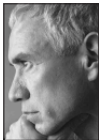
## Emmerich judging in Berlin

Roland Emmerich, the director of "Independence Day" and "The Day After Tomorrow," will head the jury at the Berlin Film Festival in February.

Eleven films already have been selected to run in the festival's main competition. They include "The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou," a new comedy from Wes Anderson, and "Les Temps qui changent" (Changing Times), directed by Andre Techine and starring Catherine Deneuve and Gerard Depardieu.

A festival statement last week said Emmerich, a native of Germany, would head the jury that will award the top Golden Bear prize, but gave no details of its other members.

Organizers already have announced that the world premiere of French director Regis Wargnier's "Man to Man," a historical adventure epic that stars Joseph Fiennes and Kristin Scott Thomas, will open the 2005 festival — its 55th edition — on Feb. 10. The event closes Feb. 20.



Emmerich

## Jet Li injured in tsunami

Action star Jet Li injured his foot as he protected his daughter from tsunami waves that flooded his hotel in the Maldives, Hong Kong newspaper reported Tuesday.

Li, who played the villain in 1998's "Lethal Weapon 4," was with his daughter in the hotel's lobby Sunday when huge waves gushed into the hotel, the Apple Daily newspaper reported, quoting a friend vacationing with Li.

He slightly injured his foot while picking up his daughter, the report said. Ming Pao Daily News reported Li struck his foot against a floating piece of furniture.

Li made his name in Hong Kong as a martial arts film star before moving on to Hollywood. His screen credits include "Romeo Must Die" and "Hero."



Li

## Gayheart steels up for play

Actress Rebecca Gayheart, who gained popularity as the "Noxzema girl" in the skin care company's ads, has joined the cast of "Steel Magnolias," opening on Broadway in April.

Gayheart, 32, appeared on the TV show "Beverly Hills, 90210" in the 1990s, and has more recently been seen on the FX series "Nip/Tuck" and Showtime's "Dead Like Me." Her movie credits include "Scream 2" and "Urban Legend."

She will play bride-to-be Shelby, the role portrayed by Julia Roberts in the 1989 movie version of Robert Harling's play, it was announced Monday.

Also in the Broadway cast is Delta Burke as Truvy, the owner of a Louisiana beauty parlor, which is where "Steel Magnolias" is set. The production, directed by Jason Moore, begins preview performances March 15 at the Lyceum Theatre and opens April 4.



Gayheart

## 'Fat Albert' fears typecasting

Kenan Thompson, who plays the title role in the new "Fat Albert" movie, hopes he doesn't get typecast.

"You always gotta watch yourself when you're playing like such an iconic character because you don't want to be trying to audition for something else and all anybody wants to do is 'Hey! Hey! Hey!' ... and kick you out of the audition," Thompson recently told reporters, according to AP Radio.

The live-action film, directed by Joel Zwick, is based on the animated TV series that comedian Bill Cosby created in the 1970s about adolescents growing up in Philadelphia.

Thompson said he wore a form-fitting fat suit to play the role.

"I had all this belly to get around and a little more booty, but you know it was cool," the 26-year-old actor-comedian said.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



AP

# Flying high again

## DiCaprio hits screen with latest epic, 'The Aviator'

BY DAVID GERMAIN

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Leonardo DiCaprio likes to think he and buddy Martin Scorsese share at least some of the obsessive fixations of Howard Hughes, the subject of their latest collaboration, "The Aviator":

■ Living through a mammoth project when it looks like it might capsize, as DiCaprio did with "Titanic," which went on to become the biggest modern blockbuster.

■ Becoming so engrossed in a story it occupies years of your life and requires a massive resurrection of another era, as Scorsese did with "Gangs of New York," which took 25 years to develop and a colossal construction job to re-create 19th-century Manhattan.

"The Aviator" screenplay looked hooked from the start, with an early sequence detailing Hughes' fanatic devotion to his World War I film "Hell's Angels." Using his own money, Hughes spent \$4 million on the 1930 film, at the time the biggest movie budget ever, and reshot it for sound after deciding the silent era was finished.

"I think Mary and I can both relate to when we read the script, we both immediately read 'Hell's Angels, year three.' We were like, wow, we know what that's like, being a part of an epic that just goes on and on and on," DiCaprio said in an interview with The Associated Press. "Persevering against all the odds and trying to make the best film, being a perfectionist, trying to make the story the best it can be."

"I certainly can't imagine taking things to the level Hughes did in his life. It's too exhausting. The man led 20 different lifestyles in one life."

"The Aviator" casts DiCaprio as Hughes during his scrappy years from the late 1920s to late 1940s, when he fought the Hollywood establishment and pushed bounds on sex and violence in film, dated parades of starlets, and oversaw creation of the world's biggest and fastest planes.

Cate Blanchett co-stars as Katharine Hepburn, whom Hughes dated for three years. Kate Beckinsale plays Ava Gardner, another of his longtime companions.

The film hints at the Hughes of later years, the cloistered multimillionaire with long hair and fingernails, terrified of germs and locked in a hotel room surrounded by tissue boxes.

It's the image of the freakish recluse that DiCaprio, 30, grew up with when it came to Hughes, who died in 1976. Then about eight years ago, DiCaprio read a biography of Hughes and became fascinated with the scope of his achievements and the conflict between his public image as a playboy and daredevil and private life as a man increasingly paralyzed by phobias.

DiCaprio initially developed "The Aviator" with Michael Mann, who decided against directing it after back-to-back film biographies in "Ali" and "The Insider." The actor pitched the script to his "Gangs of New York" director Scorsese, who quickly signed on for "The Aviator."

Like Howard Hughes, who loathed being under the public lens at Hollywood premieres, DiCaprio has learned to live unbothered by tabloid celebrity.

"I hate being bothered by paparazzi. Anyone would," DiCaprio said. "The flip side of that coin, I'm one lucky bastard, and I have nothing to complain about. People are dealing with problems around the world that are infinitely more complicated and much more extreme than anything having to do with a couple of crummy photographers. I'm not one to complain about it too much."

DiCaprio shuns questions about his personal life, tersely denying recent rumors that he split with his girlfriend, Brazilian supermodel Gisele Bundchen.

When it comes to his Oscar prospects on "The Aviator," DiCaprio is more forthcoming than most actors, who tend to insist demurely they never think about awards. After his academy recognition for "What's Eating Gilbert Grape," DiCaprio has been snubbed since, missing out on nominations with "Titanic," "Catch Me If You Can" and "Gangs of New York," films that put his co-stars in the Oscar race.

Does he feel overlooked by his peers come Oscar time? "Mmm, maybe," DiCaprio said. "But you do these films and you throw it out to the public, and it's up everyone else to figure out whether they think it's worthy of something like that or not..."

Ultimately, DiCaprio said his greatest reward is to be part of films that might stand the test of time and bear repeated viewings decades down the line.

"There are certain films out there, that's the reason I get so excited about doing movies, that hopefully I can be part of a film that people 50 years from now will be able to still want to watch. That's what's exciting to me."

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## Curfew doesn't curb mischief

First, I'd like to thank retired Navy Cmdr. Scott Smith for his brilliant, well-written letter explaining the machinations behind the U.S. Forces Korea curfew policy ("Curfew just a morality move," Dec. 24). The policy is indeed an abuse of authority.

The USFK curfew policy has been a thorn in the side of many of us for a long time. I presented it when I was an Air Force noncommissioned officer, and I resent it even more now that I am retired and working here in South Korea.

If there is, in fact, a legitimate reason for increased "force protection" measures, then somebody should notify the South Korean government about it. There have been no warnings of potential terrorist threats in the South Korean media, and South Korean citizens are going about their daily business as usual. That makes the new, expanded curfew policy easy to see for what it really is, an effort by USFK leaders to expand and exert more control over the daily lives of those who serve here. Why? I'm not sure.

Some people are just really into control. Especially religiously inclined people who tend to think they are somehow making God happy when they limit everybody's personal freedoms.

If it's true that USFK leaders want to make South Korea everybody's "assignment of choice," then they are doing exactly all the right things to make it the opposite of what they want.

I long for the good old days in South Korea when the Town Patrol would simply arrest the troublemakers and leave the rest of us to drink in peace. That was really so.

Yes, there will be some military members who will drink too much and get in trouble, but that's probably happening anyway now as I sit and write this letter a 1 p.m. on a weekday. That's where the Uniform Code of Military Justice comes into play.

As for [USFK commander] Gen. [Leon Laporte's] report to the Senate Armed Services Committee about USFK's efforts to combat prostitution and human trafficking, where he lumped curfew violations into the overall number of arrests related to prostitution and human trafficking, that was just ludicrous. People break the curfew because they resent it, not because they are up to no good. It's time to rethink the curfew policy.

Air Force Tech. Sgt. Charles Lay (Ret.)  
Sangtan, South Korea

## Not even on-base alternatives

There were in Seoul for a fun-filled weekend. It was Thursday night, Dec. 23, and we were ready to have a good time. First we thought we would start the night off with a few games at the bowling alley. Lo and behold, we only got to play one game when we were advised that the bowling alley was closing at 10 p.m.

So we figured it would be no big deal and headed on out to the Main Post Club.

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## OPINION

## Democrats knocked, didn't wait for answer

BY MICHAEL GECAN

Thirty-two years ago, in the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University in downtown Chicago, I believe I witnessed the destruction — actually, the self-destruction — of the Democratic Party. I was attending a rally for George McGovern. The place was packed. And the stage held scores of Chicago pols — red-faced aldermen and county committee men in dark suits.

There were the usual speeches from the usual Democratic functionaries, but the warm-up act for the candidate was not some tongue-tied Polish pot from the Northwest. The stage strode an actor every one knew — Warren Beatty. He was a vision — handsome, tanned, long-haired and dressed almost entirely in black leather. He dramatically discarded his floor-length leather coat, only to reveal leather pants and shirt. The crowd inhaled, gasped and burst into applause. The faces of the pols onstage went white with shock or red with rage.

Beatty is now a married man, with a family, back in California, but the Democratic Party is still the same star-struck, celebrity-driven, immature mess that it was in 1972. Instead of Warren Beatty, this year's headlines were Ben Joni, Bruce Springsteen and the inimitable Michael Moore.

Incredibly, on the night before the election, in the crucial swing state of Ohio, in 1972. Instead of Warren Beatty, this year's headlines were Ben Joni, Bruce Springsteen and the inimitable Michael Moore. Incredibly, on the night before the election, in the crucial swing state of Ohio, in 1972. Instead of Warren Beatty, this year's headlines were Ben Joni, Bruce Springsteen and the inimitable Michael Moore.

dumber than bringing all of your troops out of the trenches at the very decisive point of a major battle. While Kerry was playing McClellan, the distracted, cautious and self-inflating Union general who led from the rear, Karl Rove was Stonewall Jackson, using maximum force with maximum mobility for maximum effect at all the key points and moments of the campaign.

The other trend I witnessed, in 1972 and beyond, was the development of a style of organizing, practiced by several self-called progressive groups, that involved door-to-door canvassing, an almost scientific method of person-by-person fund raising, a set of prepackaged issues that were primarily meant to excite people to sign petitions and donate dollars, and a talent for attracting media attention. Its central dynamic was to recruit scores of young people, who would go door to door, distributing information and raising money.

That is exactly the dynamic used by most of the heavily funded Democratic get-out-the-vote efforts.

Scores of thousands of people, many of them paid (how else do you squander \$200 million?), knocked on millions of doors during this campaign. The Democratic-leaning canvassed left information, repeated a canned sales pitch and moved along. They did not engage the people in real conversation. They did not listen to their concerns. They did not recruit real volunteers to work on their own blocks. They did not take the time to find out which pastor or rabbi was a leader in an area and which congregations people attended. They were progressive salespeople with a high quota of contacts and no time to relate, who disappeared from



people's towns and lives the very moment, on election night, that they learned the sale had not been made.

It was as if they had never been there. And in a way, they never were. These two tendencies — celebrity worship and quick-hit canvassing — betray the central problem at the heart of the Democratic Party's political culture. The party has no time or patience for the complex work needed to listen to Americans, to understand their range of views and positions, and to engage them on their deepest interests.

Even worse, many in the hierarchy of the Democratic Party have contempt for ordi-

nary Americans — for their red faces and moderate churches and mixed, often moderate, views.

No amount of money can solve this problem. No think tank has the answers. No rising senatorial star can save the day. And no Hollywood hero can substitute for the fundamental changes the Democrats need to make to contend for the large, pivotal middle of the American electorate.

Michael Gecan is with the Industrial Areas Foundation, an umbrella group comprising 55 organizations in the States and three overseas that work for social change. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

## Tale of Pale Male inspires those of restless spirit

Amid all the bad news from around the world, one happy item originates from Manhattan: the saga of Pale Male, the bird-king of Central Park. The story of his temporary defeat and ultimate triumph

James Pinkerton



reminds us that the call of the wild is heard even in the most ordered of urban settings. Pale Male, of course, is the red-tailed hawk who has nested atop Fifth Avenue since 1993. And because New York City has more photographers and writers per square inch than any other city in the world, the big bird became a natural magnet for documentarians and other chroniclers. So the co-op board at 927 Fifth Avenue should have anticipated the storm of protest that followed its Dec. 7 decision to remove Pale Male's nest from its building. Some of the pro-Pale Male protests came from residents, notably Mary Tyler Moore. But most of the nature cultists came from the flock of bird-watchers and other outdoorsy activists, who sold the media on the story line that the nest-busters were a bunch of grinch. The protests worked: On Dec. 23, workers restored Pale Male's nesting place.

So why did the Pale Male story click with the public? Why did his eviction become a celebrity cause, when serious environmental problems go mostly unchecked? The red-tailed hawk, after all, is not an endangered species.

One answer, of course, is "biophilia." That's the term coined by Harvard entomologist E.O. Wilson to describe the innate

human yearning to have some direct contact with nature, even if it's nothing more than a plant in a window box — or a glimpse of a neighboring hawk. To biophiliacs, a bird in the park is worth more than millions of birds in faraway bushes.

A second answer is more political. Ordinary Americans have little control over events around the world, but they do feel a communal ownership over public spaces in their own hometown. And that belief in a collective stake applies even to the megabucks residences along Fifth Avenue. Yes, those buildings are private property, but much of their value derives from their views of Central Park, and that's public property. So the bird who benefits from the green vista is now on notice that they have an obligation to maintain the ongoing circle-of-life nature show that exists in the park. And so what if



PALEMALE.COM

Pale Male watches mate Lola land on their 12th-floor New York "love nest" last year.

the millionaires and billionaires at 927 have to deal with the rat and pigeon carcasses that fall from Pale Male's nest? They'll have to count the cleanup as just another cost of living along America's poshest avenue.

A third answer comes from sociology. To modern mankind, there's something deeply

appealing about the juxtaposition of the organic and inorganic. The idea that a feathered friend could find a home amid stone and steel — well, that's heartening.

Moreover, there's what might be called the "Batman-Spideyman Syndrome." Part of the fascination with those superhero characters is the sense that they're misunderstood by their fellow humans, and so must retreat into their animal-like disguises. When we see these comic-book avatars in their stereotypical pose, they are gazing out over the cold city from atop a skyscraper.

What human can't relate to such isolation and alienation? So Pale Male is the perfect urban companion. Aloof and alone as he soars overhead, he is forever roaming, symbol for all those who feel hungry in their heart and restless in their spirit.

James Pinkerton is a Newsday columnist.

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



DIVISION 1 FOOTBALL:

"WE RESOLVE NEVER TO HAVE A PLAYOFF... CAUSE THIS WAY, YOU GET SO MUCH MORE..."

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## Controversial street

**CO** LONGMONT — The City Council will re-name Chivington Drive after protests that the street honors Col. John Chivington, who is blamed for the slaughter of more than 150 Indians in the Sand Creek Massacre of 1864.

"Longmont set a historic precedent tonight," activist Glenn Spaulding said after the 6-1 vote Tuesday. "I've never been so proud of my city and City Council. It was racist and insensitive to the Native American community."

Militiamen under Chivington's command launched an unprovoked attack on a Cheyenne and Arapaho encampment on Sand Creek about 160 miles southeast of Denver. Most of the dead were elderly men, women and children.

Mayor Julia Pirnack said she was not convinced the street was named after the colonel, but she said she supported the change to end the years-long debate.

## Baby-biting charge

**NY** BATAVIA — A Batavia man accused of biting his 3-month-old son because the infant wouldn't stop crying has been charged with felony assault.

Michael Bennett, 23, was indicted on two counts of second-degree assault by a Genesee County grand jury. He was arrested Nov. 18 after taking his son to a Batavia hospital for treatment of bruises to his cheeks, which he suffered two days earlier when he was allegedly bitten by his father, police said.

Family members contacted the Genesee County Department of Social Services after seeing the bruises. County officials then notified police. Bennett faces up to seven years in state prison.

## Tainted cafeteria food

**IL** JOLIET — Will County officials dropped criminal charges against two employees of the state Board of Education accused of allowing tainted food to be served to schoolchildren.

Officials said the state code didn't compel Mark Haller and Katherine Keylor to take action. The two, who worked in Springfield, were responsible for the state's school lunch program.

## Woman, car under ice

**PA** PORTERSVILLE — Divers searching a frozen lake found the body of a 55-year-old woman who apparently had been driving in circles on the ice and may have been lost, officials said.

The body of Betty L. Martof was found in a car submerged in 12 feet of water in Moraine State Park's Lake Arthur on Tuesday, one day after park officials reported vehicle tracks leading to a hole in the ice.

Authorities believe she drove onto a snowmobile trail that led onto the lake and then drove on the ice for about a half-mile, making tracks in tight circles, before the ice broke.

## Christmas Eve layoffs

**MI** DETROIT — Union officials criticized Detroit Public Schools for sending layoff notices to hundreds of teachers on Christmas Eve.

The layoffs affect 372 low-senior-



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

ity teachers who are assigned to subjects without teacher shortages. The cuts, effective Feb. 25, are expected to save the district about \$8 million, a schools spokesman said.

## Very young voters

**NH** LEBANON — Hoping to make government more meaningful to young people, a state lawmaker is working a bill to allow teenagers as young as 14 to vote in municipal elections.

State Rep. Susan Almy, D-Lebanon, wants to give towns and cities the option of providing partial votes to teenagers. Under her plan, 14- and 15-year-olds would get a quarter-vote each, while teens who are 16 and 17 would get a half-vote apiece.

Lebanon High School teacher Andrew Gamble suggested the idea to Almy after hearing about efforts by a California state senator to create a similar "fractional voting" system for state and local elections.

## Honesty pays off

**MO** ST. LOUIS — After briefly considering keeping \$21,500 he found in a shopping cart at work, 17-year-old Jeff Aitken fought the temptation and reunited the cash with its rightful owner.

That honesty this month made his mother mighty proud, though she couldn't communicate it well.



## Don't flinch

Zac Archuleta, bottom, closes his eyes as his friend Brian Cotner jumps over him at the skate park in Nampa, Idaho, as they enjoy Christmas vacation.

For the past three years, Lou Gehrig's disease had robbed 53-year-old Bev Aitken of her ability to speak.

So when she lost her fight the day after the Christmas, Bev Aitken left feeling quite rich about her son's conscience, relatives say.

"I think it gave her hope that everything was going to be OK once she left," Jeff's 20-year-old sister, Jen, said Tuesday from the family's home in Overland, a St. Louis suburb.

Jeff Aitken's life — and that of his family — could have taken a different path Dec. 11, when he spotted a bag full of \$100 bills in a cart at a Schnucks supermarket at the end of his shift.

All told, the bag held \$21,500 — cash Aitken knew could have had many uses, including covering some of the family's health-care costs.

Aitken admitted that the thought of pocketing the money crossed his mind. The only identification with the cash was a check made out to Aladdin Wireless.

He took the money to police two days later as businessman Kamal Abusharbin, having just reported losing the loot, was leaving the station.

Recognizing the bag, Abusharbin hugged the teen and gave him a \$2,000 reward, a new cell phone and a job offer at a business where Aitken can learn how to sell and fix wireless phones.

## Minimum-wage hike

**WA** TUMWATER — The state minimum hourly wage will increase by 19 cents Saturday to \$7.35, maintaining Washington as the state with the highest minimum wage in the country, said Department of Labor and Industries spokesman Ron Langley.

Washington is one of three states, along with Oregon and Florida, that have voter mandates to automatically adjust the minimum wage each year. The federal minimum is \$5.15 an hour.

## Illegal dribble

**MA** SPRINGFIELD — There's some unwanted dribbling going on at the Basketball Hall of Fame.

City officials say the \$109 million dome-shaped building has sprung some leaks since it was built about two years ago.

The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, along with its parking garage and 18.5-acre site, are owned by the city. The property is rented to the hall in a 99-year lease.

The state put up \$42.5 million for the museum's construction, and about \$80,000 of that is left, said city economic developer Thomas McColgan. He expects the remaining money to cover repair costs.

## High marks

**TN** MURFREESBORO — Officials at the state's largest undergraduate university say about 60 percent of lottery scholarship recipients did well enough in their first semester to keep the stipend. Middle Tennessee State University officials say nearly 1,200 scholarship students achieved grade-point averages of 3.0 or higher.



## Out of control

Jaymie Sanders loses his balance after going over a bump at the Hesperus Ski Resort in Hesperus, Colo.



## Sewing up their entry

Volunteer Laura Noguchi works to complete the city of Alhambra's Rose Parade float entry titled "The Proud Americans" in Pasadena, Calif.



## Just hangin' out

Azy, a 27-year-old male orangutan, enjoys an unseasonably warm day and a piece of pineapple at Great Ape Trust of Iowa in Des Moines.





**They'll make you flip** Grapevine (Texas) High School won first place in the large intermediate varsity division at the National Cheerleaders Association's national championship at the Dallas Convention Center.



**Horsing around** Walter Hurst, right, puts his order for a six-pack through the drive-thru window of Sun Valley Package and Liquor in Sun Valley, Texas while Mark Lindsey, left, and Mike Hoskins, center, look on.



**Mouse protection** Mary Cochran, of Reno, Nev., walks home on West Second Street in downtown Reno, Nev., during a light snowstorm.



**Scenic outing** Todd Maas carries his kayak from the Tracyton Boat launch up to his truck after a morning of kayaking in Dyes Inlet in Bremerton, Wash.

## Heartless thieves

**TX** ALVIN — Thieves broke into a southeast Texas storage unit and took about \$10,000 worth of about 400 already-wrapped presents a charity planned to give to poor families next Christmas, police say.

"When I saw that everything was gone I was devastated," said Carolyn Ewing, head of Manvel-based Project Love — Santa's Angels.

"I became hysterical. ... I just felt violated."

Alvin Police Chief Mike Merkel said investigators are trying to determine if the break-in was linked to two other burglaries of other units at the same Alvin storage facility earlier in December.

## Guns in school

**VT** ESSEX — An Essex High School sophomore accused of taking a handgun to school allegedly did the same thing several times before he was caught earlier this month, police said.

The discovery of the unloaded handgun marked the first time a gun was found in the high school, police said, but school records indicate it was the fourth report of a weapon in the school since September.

Essex Police Capt. Leo Nadeau said interviews with high school students and parents revealed that the 15-year-old boy took the .45-caliber Glock handgun into school at least two times the week before the weapon was discovered.

The student will face two charges in his juvenile court legal proceedings.

## 2 charged in cat killing

**IN** EVANSVILLE — Two Wal-Mart employees who police say followed a manager's orders to shoot and kill a stray cat have been charged with federal animal cruelty.

The men, both assistant managers at the Supercenter, were arrested and released after a court appearance.

Christopher Anderson, 29, and Jeffrey Hardin, 21, told police the store's manager ordered them to get rid of the animal that was living in a storage trailer behind their store.

All managers potentially involved in the incident have been suspended without pay pending an internal investigation and could be fired, said Wal-Mart spokeswoman Sharon Weber.

## Museum theft

**CA** DAGGETT — Skilled burglars looted a Mojave Desert museum of its most prized possessions, including antique dolls and Native American artifacts on loan from local families.

The thieves made sure an alarm system was disabled before clearing out the glass display cases in the Daggett Museum, said curator Beryl Bell, who discovered the losses when she went to feed her goldfish on Christmas Day.

"This appeared to be a very neat operation and it appeared they had a shopping list," she said.

## Long-lost photos found

**AL** BIRMINGHAM — A search through the files of an Aniston law firm turned up long-lost photos of the burning of a bus carrying Freedom Riders

through east Alabama in 1961. The 40 photographs depicting the arson of a Greyhound bus in Aniston were donated to the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, which has an archive of photos and stories from the era.

## Raise raises eyebrows

**DE** DOVER — Lt. Gov. John Carney agrees with critics who say a 56 percent pay raise recommended by the Delaware Compensation Commission is "too much." The hike of more than \$36,000 would bring Carney's salary to \$101,588. That's more than 20 states pay their governors. Under state law, the raise will automatically take effect unless rejected outright by the General Assembly.

## Snow fund sought

**IN** INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Joe Keman asked President Bush to declare a snow emergency for 50 Indiana counties that would make them eligible for federal assistance. A storm last week pounded much of southern and central Indiana with two feet or more of snow.

The money would reimburse local and state agencies for 75 percent of the costs associated with snow removal and rescue efforts over 48 hours.

## Pumped-up prices

**OR** VENETA — The City Council voted to pass a local gas tax. It will raise money to fix decaying roads and reduce a total of about \$3.6 million in deferred maintenance. Veneta becomes the most recent of a dozen cities to embrace a gas tax. Veneta's three-cent-a-gallon tax is expected to generate about \$45,000 a year, said City Administrator Ric Ingham.

## Charters harder to get

**MN** ROSEVILLE — People who want to start state charter schools will now face stricter requirements by the state Department of Education. Potential sponsors and charter school board members will be required to receive extensive training before submitting an application. The department also will require ongoing training.

## Hawks back at home

**NY** NEW YORK — Two red-tailed hawks whose temporary eviction from the ledge of a luxury apartment building sparked angry protests were seen roosting in their restored nesting area, the New York Audubon Society said.

Scaffolding that was used to install a new specially designed nest was removed Tuesday, and Pale Male and Lola were spotted sitting in the Manhattan structure at about noon, the organization said on its Web site. They were then seen taking twigs to the nest.

The hawks' original nest, which had been on a 12th-floor window ledge of the building on Fifth Avenue and 74th Street since 1993, was taken down on Dec. 7 after residents of the building complained it was a health and safety hazard.

For a week after the birds were evicted, bird-lovers gathered outside the building, which counts actress Mary Tyler Moore and CNN anchor Paula Zahn among its residents.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press





## The Pacific Forecast

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Tide Table				
	Today		Tomorrow	
Mainland Japan				
Yokosuka	9:42 a.m.	9:56 p.m.	10:20 a.m.	11:49 p.m.
Sasebo	12:28 a.m.	1:17 p.m.	1:36 a.m.	2:09 p.m.
Chegu Island/Sowpigo	3:30 a.m.	3:33 p.m.	4:21 a.m.	4:31 p.m.
Kusatsu	8:10 a.m.	8:25 p.m.	9:02 a.m.	9:19 p.m.
Odawara, Aino	12:36 a.m.	6:28 p.m.	12:28 a.m.	1:01 p.m.
Gunga, Aino Harbor	1:10 p.m.	n/a	1:02 a.m.	1:42 p.m.
Mainland Japan				
Yokosuka	3:05 a.m.	3:52 p.m.	4:51 a.m.	5:23 p.m.
Sasebo	6:51 a.m.	7:41 p.m.	7:48 a.m.	8:48 p.m.
Chegu Island/Sowpigo	9:38 a.m.	10:45 p.m.	10:38 a.m.	11:40 p.m.
Kusatsu	2:39 a.m.	2:49 p.m.	3:24 a.m.	3:46 p.m.
Odawara, Aino	12:36 a.m.	6:28 p.m.	12:28 a.m.	1:01 p.m.
Gunga, Aino Harbor	1:10 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	1:02 a.m.	8:47 p.m.

\* For tides at other sites apply minutes below to Naha tides:  
 Sukiku, Oro Wan: -38, Senso Bay: +11, High and low tide.  
 Yagi: +6, 7, high, -8, low, Nishibaru: +10, 11, high, -12, low.

SEoul	
Today 40/16 Blustery; bit of rain	Tuesday 24/11 Cold under sunshine

SHANGHAI	
Today 56/38 Sun and clouds; milder	Tuesday 48/34 Mostly cloudy

China

A map of East Asia showing the Korean peninsula and Japan. The Korean peninsula is divided into North Korea and South Korea. A black dot is located on the southern coast of South Korea, with a line pointing to it from the label 'YOKINAMA' at the bottom of the page. Japan is shown to the east of the Korean peninsula.

NORTHERN JAPAN	
Today 44/31 Rain and wet snow; gusty wind	Tuesday 34/18 Colder with snow and furies

TOKYO	
Today 49/32 Sunshine, then clouds; milder	Tuesday 54/32 Cloudy to partly sunny; a shower

SOUTHERN JAPAN	
Today 57/44 Clouds and a	Tuesday 48/34 Brisk winds

The map shows Southeast Asia with labels for Burma, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Malaysia. Three cities are highlighted with weather boxes:

- BANGKOK**

Today 88/65	Tuesday 88/65
Sunny and warm	Bright sunshine
- SINGAPORE**



Today 83/74	Tuesday 83/74
Mostly cloudy; showers	Some showers
- HANOI**

Today 67/62	
Mostly cloudy; haze	

GUAM	
Today 67/59 Milder, breezy pm	Tuesday 69/57 Mostly cloudy; breezy

few showers;  
windy

and spotty  
showers



**HAJALEIN**

ay 79  
dy; stray  
wer

**Tuesday**  
87/79  
Gusty wind;  
sun, cloud

of 7 a.m. Sunday, Tokyo ti

**As of 7 a.m. Sunday, Tokyo time**

### Extended Forecasts

**TOKYO**  
Wednesday: Mostly sunny,  
high 38, low 29.  
Thursday: Periods of clouds and  
sunshine,  
high 44, low 38.

**KADENA**  
Wednesday: Partly sunny,  
high 67, low 57.  
Thursday: Periods of clouds and  
sunshine,  
high 71, low 61.

**SEOUL**  
Wednesday: Mostly sunny,  
high 30, low 16.  
Thursday: Snow,  
high 34, low 16.

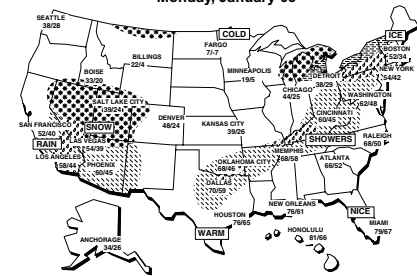
**MANILA**  
Wednesday: Showers,  
high 82, low 72.  
Thursday: Periods of clouds and  
sunshine,  
high 86, low 74.

**HAGATNA**  
Wednesday: Partly sunny,  
high 86, low 76.  
Thursday: Periods of clouds and  
sunshine,  
high 86, low 76.

### Saturday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW
Albuquerque	56/36	Los Angeles	60/45
Amarillo	65/37	Little Rock	64/46
Anchorage	60/34	Louisville	70/56
Asheville	67/44	Miami	79/68
Baltimore	68/38	Milwaukee	76/54
Birmingham	71/52	Nashville	70/33
Bismarck	8	New York	59/52
Boise	56/28	Omaha	45/52
Boston	39/25	Orlando	50/26
Brownsville	61/67	Philadelphia	68/46
Buffalo	61/37	Phoenix	58/36
Burlington	81/50	Pittsburgh	65/42
Charleston, SC	73/50	Portland, OR	52/33
Charlotte	71/46	Portland, ME	42/33
Chicago	59/42	Salt Lake City	61/42
Columbus, OH	51/46	St. Louis	59/54
Duluth	21/13	San Antonio	75/65
El Paso	65/46	San Diego	62/42
Hartford	54/22	San Juan	80/77
Helena	15/4	Tampa	80/66
Indianapolis	59/43	Tulsa	69/47
Jackson	73/43	Washington	70/47
Kansas City	51/43	Wichita	65/45

**Monday, January 03**



### U.S. Extended Forecast

Stormy weather will remain a problem across the West Monday and Tuesday. A large storm will spin southward across Southern California and the Southwest. Rain will soak waterlogged sections of California and western Arizona. Snow will continue to pile up in the Sierra. Meanwhile, unsettled weather affects the Midwest and Ohio Valley during the period. A storm will spread rain across Missouri, Kentucky, Ohio and Tennessee. Thunderstorms will accompany the rain across parts of the Tennessee and lower Mississippi valleys. Farther north, the rain will change to ice and snow across Iowa, Michigan and Wisconsin. Icy conditions may make travel difficult across the region Monday night and Tuesday.

### Monday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW
Bangkok	86/66	Iwakuni	54/41	Sasebo NB	57/44
Beijing	34/13	Kadena AB	67/59	Sapporo	44/31
Campano Casey	40/14	Kunsan AB	46/28	Seoul	40/16
Christchurch	1/52	Kwajalein	87/71	Shanghai	56/38
Diego Garcia	86/78	Manila	86/74	Singapore	83/64
Hagatna	86/76	Misawa AB	42/31	Sydney	83/72
Hanoi	70/59	Osan	41/17	Taegu	51/28
Hong Kong	67/62	Perth	81/63	Taipei	73/60
Houston	67/61	Pusan	53/21	Tokyo	74/47

### Monday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW
Acapulco	92/74	Budapest	32/25	Kabul	42/15	Nairobi	83/56
Athens	51/55	Buenos Aires	88/70	Kiev	25/15	New Delhi	70/41
Auckland	72/38	Cairo	63/43	Kuwait	25/16	Oslo	30/26
Bahaghdad	69/61	Cancun	80/72	Lima	80/62	San Francisco	88/54
Barbados	94/67	Cape Town	79/59	Manila	52/36	Rio de Janeiro	80/60
Barcelona	48/37	Geneva	31/29	Mexico City	70/48	Rome	46/32
Berlin	33/31	Istanbul	41/27	Montreal	38/13	St. Petersburg	28/27
Bermuda	68/59	Jerusalem	57/41	Mogadishu	90/74	Stockholm	32/15
Bombay	88/79	London	88/79	Nairobi	83/56	Tokyo	88/54



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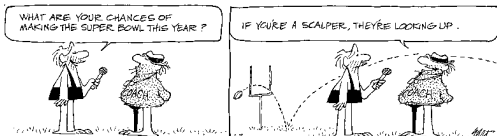




Fox Trot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



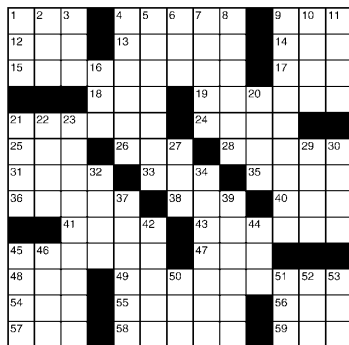
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

- 1 "Great Expectations" hero  
4 Bridge positions  
9 Perched  
12 Big fuss  
13 Soda-shop item  
14 Besides (Pref.)  
15 Bluesy instrument  
17 Deleted  
18 Chum  
19 Milky Way, for one  
21 "Bonanza" star  
24 End  
25 Midafternoon, on a sundial  
26 Cash dispenser (Abbr.)  
28 Juniors-to-be  
31 Cabin components  
33 Greek vowel  
35 Vegan's no-no  
36 A Musketeer  
38 Dine  
40 Carte lead-in  
41 Quaker's address  
43 Gloomy  
45 City bosses  
47 Laia precursor  
49 2004 victors  
54 Blackbird  
55 Macabre  
56 One or more  
57 Remiss  
58 Fear big-time  
59 Rectangular candy

## Down

- 1 — de deux  
2 Tennyson princess  
3 Plague  
4 Iberian land, to locals  
5 Jock  
6 "No seats" sign  
7 Sharp flavors  
8 Jogger's attire  
9 "It"  
10 Pinnacle  
11 Neat  
12 Unclose, in  
20 Appear ominously  
21 Arizona river  
22 Laugh-a-minute type  
23 Throw out (Sl.)  
27 Peaks (Abbr.)

29 "Gilligan's Island" cast member

30 Ollie's pal

32 London neighborhood

34 Schwarzenegger's home

37 Worked in the mailroom

39 Used a blender, maybe

42 "My Boo" singer

44 Young fellow

45 Repeat

46 Kourmikov or Karenina

50 Before

52 "A Chorus Line" song

53 End of a "Sesame Street" lesson

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



1-3

CRYPTOQUIP

L M D G N R Y O O L G J  
M G N R P Y F T N Q O R P M R L  
T R Q X L Z O B M R Y T N D Y J O Q Y .

DB OLXT MFY TYMOYZ!  
Saturday's Cryptquip: OLD HORROR-MOVIE DIRECTORS COULD SIT AROUND REMINISCING OVER THEIR GORY DAYS.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: O equals L

# Reconciliation a tricky situation

**Dear Abby:** I need to know if I should forgive my husband, "Kurt," or move on and start over.

I had been married 26 years when Kurt called me one day at work to say he no longer knew how he felt about me.

I was speechless. At first, I thought he was joking, but it went from bad to worse, and he asked for a divorce. He became verbally and emotionally abusive after that and moved out for a while. Then we reconciled. Everything was OK until a well-meaning friend called and told me Kurt had been involved with the office staff for more than a year.

When I confronted him, spilled his guts.

I get sick thinking of the way Kurt treated me. My feelings for my husband have changed since I learned the truth. What I thought was a midlife crisis

turned out to be a true betrayal — but where do I go from here? Since Kurt has returned home, I have been the "queen" in his life. He is truly a different person. What do you think?

**Dear Furious:** I think he's

sorry for the mess he made of things and for hurting you. Let's not forget, if he didn't care for you, he could have ended the marriage. You and your husband must talk this out until it is laid to rest, and the place to do it is in the presence of a marriage counselor.

**Dear Abby**



**Dear Abby:** For the past year, every time I visit my parents, my mother has commented on items in her home that she wants to go to specific family members after she and Dad are gone.

My siblings and I don't always get along, and I'm afraid that after our parents pass on, there

will be a nasty battle over who gets what.

I have suggested to Mom that she write this all down, but she refuses. She keeps insisting, "You'll remember this." Should I help my parents write down their wishes?

**— Dutiful Daughter**  
in Middletown, N.J.

**Dear Daughter:** It's a shame that two of the most important subjects — sex and death — are also the most difficult to discuss. In the interest of family harmony, your mother and father should be writing down their wishes concerning their property. However, since your mother seems unwilling, when she points out certain items, give her an indelible pen and suggest that she label them with the name of the person she would like to have them.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby> Universal Press Syndicate

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SYTTA

\_\_\_\_\_

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VALIT

\_\_\_\_\_

TEWGIN

\_\_\_\_\_

[www.jumble.com](http://www.jumble.com)

DICHOR

\_\_\_\_\_

A: \_\_\_\_\_ OF "\_\_\_\_\_"

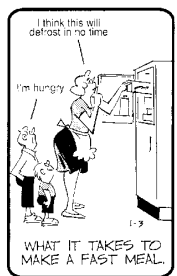
(Answers tomorrow)

**Starword:** DAILY SCARF PLACID BEHOLD

**Answer:** The only time of year the crowd wanted the star shortstop to do this — DROP THE 'BALL'

## THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argrison



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

# Children old enough to fly alone

**Dear Annie:** My kids, ages 11 and 9, live with my ex-wife over 1,000 miles away from me. Each time I want to visit them, I have to pay for very expensive plane tickets and hotel rooms. If they come to my house, it means I have to fly there to pick them up and fly back to return them.

**Annie's Mailbox**



I know that airlines have services to make sure your kids travel safely. I want my children to spend their next vacation with me, but my ex-wife thinks they are too young to travel without a parent. She worries about turbulence or the chance of a plane crash. I agree with her, but flying is safer than driving, and she has no problem putting them in a car. Besides, it was HER decision to move so far away.

My attorney informs me that if I choose to have the children fly here, my ex-wife is required to

put them on a plane. I have discussed this with my kids, and my oldest has no problem with it. The younger one is a little unsure. What are your thoughts on the subject? Is my ex justified not to let them see me unless I pick them up? — **Concerned Parent**

**Dear Parent:** There are no guarantees when it comes to air travel.

While your presence on the plane may be comforting, airlines are wonderful about children traveling alone, and heaven knows, there are plenty of them shuttling between divorced parents these days.

Yes, the kids are old enough to fly by themselves, although they may be nervous the first time they do so. It will help if their mother reassures them, so please discuss this with her. If she is unwilling to put them on a plane,

the two of you should alternate which one of you gets to travel with them. She should not be using this as an excuse for them to avoid seeing their father.

**Dear Annie:** My sister requested an expensive perfume for her birthday. When I purchased the item, I was given a bonus gift of a small travel case with several assorted cosmetics. Should I give the promotional items to my sister? I like many of the products and would like to keep them, if it's OK.

— **Indiana Shopper**

**Dear Indiana:** Yes, you may keep them. The perfume is the gift for your sister. The rest belongs to you for making the purchase, so enjoy.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [annieandmarcy@comcast.net](mailto:annieandmarcy@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

## Family Circus



**"Don't pack them too hard, 'cause we might be throwing some of them at Mommy."**



**Dennis the Menace**



"I THINK YOU'RE IN TROUBLE, DAD! ONE OF YOUR GOLF BALLS JUST BUSTED MR. WILSON'S WINDOW!"

**© Gary Larson**

**The Far Side**



"See how the vegetation has been trampled flat here, Jimmy? That tells me where a deer bedded down for the night. After a while, you'll develop an eye for these things yourself."

**Non Sequitur**















# Yankees reach tentative deal for Johnson

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — One week later, Randy Johnson again appears headed to New York.

The Arizona Diamondbacks and Yankees reached a tentative agreement Thursday on a deal to send the Big Unit to the Bronx for pitchers Javier Vazquez and Brad Halsey, young catcher Dioner Navarero and \$9 million, a baseball official said on condition of anonymity.

The teams finished putting the deal in writing Friday but do not intend to submit it to the commissioner's office until Monday, the official said.

While not confirming the substance of the report, Diamondbacks managing partner Ken Kendrick said the teams "are in serious discussions."

Kendrick also indicated Arizona was working on another deal involving Vazquez. One possible suitor was the Los Angeles Dodgers, who could send outfielder Shawn Green and pitcher Brad Penny to Arizona.

Separate trades, if they include Los Angeles, would in essence reach the same conclusion as the three-team effort that fell apart Dec. 21 when the Dodgers backed out. Arizona also could deal Vazquez to another team.

"We would not agree to a final offer or a trade of Randy Johnson unless we believed it would benefit our team," Kendrick said. "That would require in return at least two significant major league batters."

Kendrick said, however, that no deal could be completed until the paperwork was submitted to the commissioner's office, until early next week.

In addition, the Yankees finalized a \$3 million, one-year contract with Tim Lincecum, a deal that includes a club option for 2006.

Even after the Yankees and Diamondbacks finalize their deal, several things must happen before the trade could become complete.



Arizona Diamondbacks ace Randy Johnson reportedly will be traded to the New York Yankees for pitchers Javier Vazquez and Brad Halsey, catcher Dioner Navarero and \$9 million. A baseball official said the teams will submit paperwork for the deal on Monday.

■ Because the money was greater than \$1 million, commissioner Bud Selig must give his approval, which probably won't happen until next week.

■ All players must pass physicals.

■ Johnson has to formally give approval because he has a no-trade clause.

■ The Yankees want a 72-hour window to negotiate an extension with the 41-year-old Johnson, whose current contract expires after the 2005 season.

Johnson, a 10-time All-Star, would join a reshaped rotation that now includes Carl Pavano and Jaret Wright.

The Yankees, who already had Mike Mussina and Kevin Brown, blew a 3-0 lead in the American League championship se-

ries and lost in seven games to the Boston Red Sox.

The money New York is sending Arizona, which will be paid over several seasons, would offset some of the \$34.5 million Vazquez is owed: \$10.5 million in 2005, \$11.5 million in 2006 and \$12.5 million in 2007. New York is making the final \$1 million payment of his signing bonus, which is due Friday.

Johnson was 16-14, a record skewed by playing for a team that went 5-11, tied for the 10th-most losses in major league history.

Martinez, 37, a two-time All-Star, played for New York from 1996 to 2001, helping the Yankees win five AL pennants and four

World Series titles. A close friend of Derek Jeter, Martinez hit .262 with 23 homers and 76 RBIs for Tampa Bay last season.

Martinez gets \$2.75 million next season and New York has a \$3 million option for 2006 with a \$250,000 buyout.

## Cardinals working on 2B Alomar

ST. LOUIS — Searching for the final piece to a revamped middle infield, the St. Louis Cardinals are working on a deal with switch-hitting second baseman Roberto Alomar.

Cardinals spokesman Brian Bartow said Thursday that "certainly there are talks between the two sides" as the NL champions look to replace Tony Womack, who signed this month with the New York Yankees.

Bartow labeled as premature a report that the Cardinals had signed Alomar, a 10-time Gold Glove winner, to a \$500,000, one-year contract.

Alomar turns 37 in February and played in just 56 games last year because of a broken right hand after being hit by a pitch.

Alomar's agent, Jaime Torres, refused to discuss the Cardinals' interest in the 12-time All-Star, who is a career .300-hitter.

Alomar split last season between Arizona and the Chicago White Sox, batting a combined .263 with four home runs and 24 RBIs in 171 plate appearances.

## Boston's Damon gets married

BOSTON — Boston Red Sox center fielder Johnny Damon married girlfriend Michelle Mangan in Florida Thursday in an affair attended by stars of the sports, television and music worlds.

Red Sox teammates Doug Mientkiewicz, Mike Timlin, Kevin Millar, Bronson Arroyo and Ken Yocum were among the 175 guests at Orlando's Ritz Carlton Grande Lakes Hotel. AC/DC lead singer Brian Johnson and celebrity chef Todd English also were in attendance.

The reception capped three days of events, including a private comedy show for guests featuring Mike O'Malley, Craig Shoemaker, and on "Saturday Night Live," Seth Meyers.

# Suspect in Vanderbilt player's death surrenders

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — A man charged with killing a Vanderbilt football player turned himself in Friday, police said.

Rodney "Roscoe" Roman was charged with first-degree murder in the death of Kwame Ooster, a running back with Vanderbilt, and two counts of attempted murder, Tampa police spokesman Joe Durkin said.

Roman was accompanied by his lawyer, Daniel Castillo, who he surrendered at the Hillsborough County Jail, Durkin said.

"My client is not the person they are looking for," Castillo told The Tampa Tribune. "They got the wrong guy."

Doster was shot to death Sunday after his friends got in a dispute with three other men about whose car was better, Durkin said.

Police said Roman, who is in his late 20s, fired the shot that killed Doster and was the driver of the car that pulled up alongside the vehicle Doster was riding in Sunday.

Roman's lawyer did not immediately return a message Friday seeking comment.

## Sports briefs

Doster was the first Vanderbilt player recognized as the Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Year in 2002 after setting a team record of 798 rushing yards.

## Teams, athletes helping with tsunami relief efforts

Sports teams, athletes and even bowl games are organizing relief efforts for victims of the tsunami disaster in Asia.

The American Red Cross will collect donations at the Rose Bowl and the Cotton Bowl on Saturday; volunteers from Northwest Medical Teams will accept relief assistance donations at Sunday's NFL game between the Atlanta Falcons and Seattle Seahawks.

"You have all seen it on television and seen the devastation," said Seattle coach Mike Holmgren, whose wife, Kathy, is a board member of the Northwest Medical Teams. "People are all asking, 'What can I do?' This is one of the things we can do."

The NBA's Charlotte Bobcats

accepted donations from fans at Friday night's game against the Seattle SuperSonics, and the New Jersey Nets will donate a percentage of all tickets sold over the next two weeks to UNICEF.

The son of baseball great Roberto Clemente is sending money and two tons of supplies — originally destined for Nicaragua to honor his late father's ill-fated humanitarian flight exactly 32 years ago — to tsunami victims.

"My father always said, 'If you have an opportunity to make things better and you don't, then you are wasting your time on Earth,'" Roberto Clemente Jr. said in a telephone interview Thursday with The Associated Press from Puerto Rico.

Some of the biggest names in tennis are also assisting victims. Roger Federer, Andy Roddick and Lleyton Hewitt, the three top-ranked players, will auction autographed rackets, with the money going to UNICEF relief.

Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova donated \$10,000 Thursday to the victims in Thailand. Sharapova, in Bangkok for an exhibition match against Venus Williams, presented the check to Thailand's prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

## Nuggets' Anthony, MTV VJ Vazquez engaged

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony finally has some good news about his personal life: He's engaged to MTV VJ La La Vazquez.

The Denver Nuggets' star said Thursday he made his proposal, accompanied by a 9-car ride on Christmas Day. They haven't set a wedding date.

The engagement follows a series of unflattering off-the-court news about Anthony. He was charged with misdemeanor drug possession in October after airport inspectors found marijuana in his backpack. The charge was dropped after a friend said the marijuana was his.

In November, three men were arrested on suspicion of trying to extort \$3 million from Anthony with a videotape of a bar fight that broke out after someone spit a drink on Vazquez in Manhattan in September.

In early December, Anthony popped up on a homemade DVD circulating in Baltimore, his hometown. Someone on the DVD warns that people who tip police about drug deals "get a hole in their head."

Anthony said he had nothing to do with the DVD and condemned the message.

## Krajacic helps put Netherlands in main draw

PERTH, Australia — The 15-year-old sister of 1996 Wimbledon champion Richard Krajacic helped the Netherlands earn its first spot in nine years in the main draw of the Hopman Cup, a mixed teams event and Australian Open tuneup.

Michaella Krajacic, winner of last year's U.S. Open girls' title, won a qualifying match against Zimbabwe on Saturday, defeating Cara Black 6-6, 7-6 (5), 6-0. Peter Wessels then defeated Wayne Black 7-6 (7), 7-5, giving the Dutch the eighth and final place in the field. Zimbabwe won a rubber double set 8-7 to make the final score 2-1.

The Dutch are grouped with the defending champion United States, Slovakia and Australia. The United States, which plays the Netherlands on Tuesday, is without top-ranked Lindsay Davenport, who has a knee injury. Meghann Shaughnessy will team with James Blake, who won this event with Serena Williams in 2003 and Davenport last year.



# Anthony Cooper earned victory

The Associated Press

DENVER—Michael Cooper spent most of his first game as an NBA coach sitting on the bench, hoping for nervousness to be felt instead of not filter out onto the floor.

Apparently, Cooper learned a little about acting in all those years in Los Angeles.

Carmelo Anthony had 24 points in his first game in two weeks, and the Denver Nuggets made Cooper a winner in his NBA coaching debut, ending a six-game losing streak with a 97-92 victory over Philadelphia on Friday night.

Cooper became the interim coach Tuesday after the losing streak and a 13-15 start coach Jeff Bzdelik left the job. The Nuggets didn't look a whole lot different under Cooper—good stretches followed by horrible ones—but certainly had plenty of energy.

Playing most of the game without three starters, Denver scrambled on defense and played just well enough on offense to win for just the second time in 10 games. The Nuggets also stayed poised down the stretch—exactly what Cooper had hoped for with his staid style.

"I was excited, but I tried not to show the team that I was excited," said Cooper, who played and coached in Los Angeles over parts of the 1980s. "As a player, I looked to the bench and if Pat Riley was looking a little nervous it effected me on the floor. So I tried to keep my composure so the players don't see me losing my composure."

It worked. Cooper pledged to make Denver better by focusing on defense—his specialty in 12 seasons as a player. That philosophy was the best test right away against Philadelphia, which had scored 100 points in eight straight games, and Allen Iverson,

who averaged 41 points in his past five. And it didn't help that the Nuggets were without Kenyon Martin (back) and Greg Buckner (groin), their last center Marcus Camby, the league's No. 4 shot-blocker, to a strained place in the first quarter.

**SuperSonics 103, Bobcats 97:** At Charlotte, N.C., Rashard Lewis scored 27 points and Seattle made 11 three-pointers.

Vladimir Radmanovic added 21 points on 5-for-7 shooting from three-point range and Ray Allen had 18 points for the Sonics. Emeka Okafor led the Bobcats with a career-high 27 points and also had 10 rebounds.

**Kings 109, Jazz 102:** Chris Webber scored 14 of his 25 points in the third quarter to help the visiting Kings snap a two-game losing streak.

Peja Stojakovic led the Kings with 26 points and Mike Bibby and Brad Miller each added 17. Carlos Boozer led the Jazz with 25 points and 10 rebounds.

**Spurs 98, Clippers 79:** At Los Angeles, Tim Duncan scored 23 points and Tony Parker added 21 points and 11 assists to help San Antonio win its fifth straight game.

The Southwest Division-leading Spurs, with the best record in franchise history, improved to 25-5 with their 17th victory in 20 games. Maggote led the early effort of coach Gregg Popovich. Corey Maggote and Rick Brunson each had 17 points for the Clippers.

**Rockets 105, Bucks 90:** Tracy McGrady had 42 points to help the first Rockets return to the court since the first time since they were 6-6 on Nov. 21. Houston has won nine of its last 13 games.

Rockets center Yao Ming missed a game for the first time in his NBA career, sitting out because of the flu. Michael Redd led the Bucks with 21 points.

In Thursday's games:

**Pacers 96, Nets 83:** Jermaine O'Neal scored 31 points to lead visiting Indiana, just hours after a judge ruled that he didn't have to serve the final 10 games of a suspension.

Jeff Foster added 16 points and a season-high 16 rebounds as the Pacers won their third straight game, matching their longest streak since Nov. 19, 1991, in Detroit that led to multiple suspensions.

O'Neal got a 25-game suspension, but last week an arbitrator reduced it to 15 games, allowing him to return to action. U.S. District Judge George B. Daniels upheld that decision in New York about three hours before the Pacers and Nets took the court.

**SuperSonics 104, Hawks 79:** At Atlanta, Ray Allen scored 20 points and Rashard Lewis added 17 to lead the SuperSonics, who overcame the ejections of Jerome James and Danny Fortson to beat the Hawks.

Official Bob Delaney ejected James after giving the center his first technical foul with 7:14 left in the third quarter. James, called for an offensive foul, appeared to use an explosive as he looked down at Delaney.

With 6:53 remaining in the fourth quarter, Fortson complained about contact on Seattle's offensive end and was tossed by Delaney.

**Heat 89, Pistons 78:** Dwyane Wade had 31 points, 10 assists and 10 rebounds to lead Miami past host Detroit.

Wade helped extend the Heat's franchise-record winning streak to 13 games. Miami, which last lost on Dec. 4, won 14 games in a month for the first time.

Shane Battie scored 22 points, a season back and ribs, had 21 points for the Heat.

**Spurs 114, Trail Blazers 80:** At Port-



Denver Nuggets forward Carmelo Anthony, front, protects the ball as Philadelphia 76ers forward Aton McKie tries for a steal in the first quarter in Denver on Friday.

land, Ore., Tim Duncan had 19 points and nine rebounds and Tony Parker added 18 points to lead San Antonio.

Parker, coming off a season-high 29 points against Phoenix, scored 15 points in the first half as the Spurs won their fourth straight and seventh in eight games.

Darius Miles had 17 points for Portland in the Blazers' most lopsided loss of the season.

## NBA scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division			
	W	L	Pct
New York	13	10	.562
Philadelphia	13	14	.482
Boston	10	16	.385
New Jersey	10	16	.385
Toronto	10	16	.385

Southeast Division			
	W	L	Pct
Miami	17	7	.708
Orlando	12	12	.500
Atlanta	12	12	.500
Charlotte	7	20	.259
Atlanta	13	17	.432

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct
Cleveland	15	10	.600
San Antonio	15	10	.600
Detroit	15	10	.600
Chicago	9	16	.354
Milwaukee	9	17	.344

### Western Conference

Southwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
San Antonio	25	6	.806
Dallas	15	10	.600
Houston	15	10	.600
Phoenix	12	13	.481
New Orleans	11	14	.441

Northwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
Seattle	12	7	.632
Portland	14	13	.519
Denver	14	13	.519
Golden State	11	17	.391
Utah	11	17	.391

Pacific Division			
	W	L	Pct
Phoenix	4	26	.136
Sacramento	18	6	.692
L.A. Lakers	13	11	.542
L.A. Clippers	13	14	.481
Portland	10	17	.370

Thursday's games			
Seattle 84, Atlanta 79			
Indiana 96, New Jersey 83			
Portland 104, Detroit 78			
San Antonio 114, Portland 80			

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Boston 108, Washington 103			
Philadelphia 92, Charlotte 109			
Sacramento 99, Utah 102			
Portland 80, Philadelphia 82			
San Antonio 98, L.A. Clippers 79			
Houston 105, Milwaukee 90			

Saturday's games			
Charlotte at Miami			
San Antonio at New York			
Memphis at Minnesota			
Chicago at Dallas			
Golden State at Portland			
Atlanta at Washington			

### Philadelphia at L.A. Clippers

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Indiana 96, New Jersey 83			
Portland 104, Detroit 78			
San Antonio 114, Portland 80			

Friday's games			
Boston 108, Washington 103			
Philadelphia 92, Charlotte 109			
Sacramento 99, Utah 102			
Portland 80, Philadelphia 82			
San Antonio 98, L.A. Clippers 79			
Houston 105, Milwaukee 90			

Saturday's games
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# Kansas needs OT to beat Ga. Tech

BY DOUG TUCKER

The Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Keith Langford's twisting shot with 3 seconds left in overtime capped a comeback from a 16-point deficit and lifted second-ranked Kansas to a 70-68 victory over No. 9 Georgia Tech on Saturday.

It was a physical, fast-paced rematch of a regional final in the 2004 NCAA tournament, a game the Yellow Jackets won en route to a berth in the national championship game.

This time, Kansas (9-4) shot poorly in the first half, fell behind by double digits early, and did not take its first lead until the extra period. Langford had a hand in that, too, stealing the ball to set up Alex Galindo's bucket that gave the hosts a 66-65 lead with 1:38 left in the extra session.

Then, with the capacity crowd in Allen Fieldhouse screaming, Langford put a spin move on defender Mario West and launched the game-winner.

Langford, who has only two points by half-time, led the Jayhawks with 18. J.R. Giddens had 16 and Aaron Miles finished with 14 in his 11th straight start at point guard. Miles has eight assists, giving him 808 for his career to surpass the school record of 804 set by Jacques Vaughn between 1993 and 1997.

The Jayhawks were without injured power forward Wayne Simien, their leading scorer (17.4-point average) and rebounder (12 aver-



Kansas' C.J. Giles (33) and Aaron Miles apply pressure to Georgia Tech's Jarrett Jack (3).

age). It was Kansas' second game since he was sidelined for at least a month with a thumb injury.

Georgia Tech guard B.J. Elder, pacing the Yellow Jackets with more than 15 points a game despite a recent shooting slump, went to the bench midway through the first half with

what appeared to be a leg problem. He did not return.

Jarrett Jack led the way for Georgia Tech (9-2) with 26 points.

Georgia Tech, which beat Kansas 79-71 in the NCAA's but lost to Connecticut in the final, went up quickly in overtime Saturday on Anthony Morrow's bucket. With 2:42 left, Innat'l Muhammad hit a 5-footer in the lane for a 65-61 lead. Galindo, who helped lead Kansas' second-half comeback, answered with a three-pointer that cut the deficit to 65-64.

A moment later, Langford's bucket made it 68-67 and Muhammad's free throw with 27 seconds to play tied it at 68.

After trimming the deficit to seven points at halftime, Kansas got it down to one point three times. But Luke Schenscher answered with two free throws the first time and Jack came down and scored twice to keep Kansas at bay.

Finally, with 1:15 left in regulation, Langford bounced in a three-pointer that knotted it 68-68.

The Jayhawks hit only five of their first 19 shots and trailed 31-15 after Miles missed a layup and Muhammad drove in for a crowd-silencing dunk.

Miles and J.R. Giddens then hit consecutive three-pointers and the Jayhawks shaved the lead to 34-27 when Miles went to the line with 2 seconds left in the half. That was the first free throw for any Kansas player.

# AFA wins; Army and Navy fall

The Associated Press

AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Tim Kelleads his first four

three-point attempts and finished with 12 points Friday to help Air Force beat Rutgers 70-53 and end a three-game losing streak.

Keller also had five assists and Antoine Hood added 12 points for the Falcons (7-5), who ended Rutgers' four-game winning streak in their first game against a Big East opponent since 1988.

For years, teams from major conferences had no compelling reason to play Air Force, a long-strug-

gling program that last season made its first NCAA tournament appearance since 1962. Now, as the Scarlet Knights (6-4) learned, there are new reasons to avoid the Falcons. Methodical and mind-numbing as a metronome, Air Force ran its slow-down, Princeton-style offense by the book, rarely letting Rutgers run or get into any kind of flow.

Ricky Shields had 12 points, and Quincy Douby 10 for the Scarlet Knights, who didn't get their first transition bucket until 2 minutes were gone in the second half. They also played in constant foul trouble. Freshman Ollie Bailey, who averages 14 points and five rebounds, scored the game's first bucket, then left 5 minutes later with two fouls. He finished with two points and a rebound.

Air Force went 10-for-24 from three-point range, most of the attempts coming with the shot clock in single digits. Air Force held Rutgers to 20 points in the first half and, although the pace picked up a bit in the second, the Knights didn't really start running and scoring until after they had fallen behind by 16 with about 5 minutes left.

In Thursday's games:

**Fairleigh Dickinson 69, Army 53:** Adakvasak, N.J., Chad Timberlake had 18 points and seven rebounds to lead Fairleigh Dickinson (5-7) past Army (2-8).

Tamien Trent added 15 points for Fairleigh Dickinson. Colin Harris led Army with 15 points.

Army pulled within eight points twice in the second half, but Fairleigh Dickinson went on a 15-1 run, surging to a 55-38 lead, its biggest of the night, with 9:11 left.

**Citadel 87, Navy 72:** At Charleston, S.C., Donny McLendon scored 23 points and Kevin Hammack 19 for Citadel (8-2), which has its best record since 1992.

The Bulldogs led only 36-32 at halftime after Navy (4-7) drilled within four on David's Hooper's three-pointer. The Citadel pulled it on in the second half, scoring 25 of the next 24 Navy turnovers.

Hooper had 22 points and 15 points. Matt Fannin and Laramie Mergerson added 13, and Corey Johnson had 12.

# No. 1 Illinois routs Cincinnati in Vegas

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Deron Williams had 18 points and six rebounds to help top-ranked Illinois beat No. 22 Cincinnati 67-45 Friday night in the final game of the Las Vegas Holiday Classic.

Roe Brown and Roger Powell added 13 points apiece for Illinois (14-0), which did not trail for the sixth consecutive game. Jason Maxiell led the Bearcats (11-1) with 12 points and 11 rebounds.

Illinois is off to its best start since 1988-89, when it began 17-0 and reached the Final Four. The Illini have only trailed for 21 minutes, 32 seconds of 560 minutes this season.

The last time Illinois trailed was Dec. 9 against Georgetown.

**No. 13 Washington 81, California 67:** At Seattle, Te Simmons scored 18 points, and Bobby Jones had 16 to help Washington win a Pac-10 Conference opener.

Will Conroy and Jamaal Williams each added 11 points as Washington (11-1) extended its home winning streak to 14 games, the longest in six years. The Huskies also won their seventh straight overall, the most since 1990-91.

Richard Midgley led California (7-4) with 18 points.

**No. 16 Iowa 67, Saint Louis 58:** At Iowa City, Iowa, Pierre Pierce scored 24 points and led a late 10-run that enabled Iowa to finally pull away from stubborn Saint Louis.

Adam Haluska added 13 points for the Hawkeyes (12-1). Zik Onahon had 15 points for Saint Louis (2-10) and Anthony Drejail 14.

In Thursday's games:

**Missouri 63, No. 12 Gonzaga 61:** At Columbia, Mo., Gonzaga accustomed to pulling off upsets, fell to Missouri just two days after the Bulldogs edged No. 3 Oklahoma State.

Jason Conley had 16 points and 13 rebounds, and Missouri survived a lengthy cold stretch at the finish to hang on.

The Tigers (7-5) scored just two points in the final 8½ minutes, yet improved to 16-38 against teams in the Top 25 in six seasons under Quinn Snyder. The Illini (13-0) have their best record since going 17-0 in 1988-89.

Jermaine Spencer, Clifton Lee and Jer-



Illinois' Roger Powell dunks during the first half of the top-ranked Illini's 67-45 rout of No. 22 Cincinnati in the championship game of the Las Vegas Holiday Classic on Friday night.

Oklahoma State in double overtime last Feb. 24 at home.

Ronny Turiaf, who had six points on 2-for-15 shooting, missed two free throws with a chance to tie it for Gonzaga (10-2) with 8.4 seconds left. He also missed a driving layup with about 3 seconds left.

**No. 1 Illinois 69, Northwestern (La.) 51:** Luther Head scored 18 points to lead Illinois past Northwestern State in the Las Vegas Holiday Classic. The Illini (13-0) have their best record since going 17-0 in 1988-89.

Jermaine Spencer, Clifton Lee and Jer-

maine Wallace each had seven points to lead Northwestern State (5-7).

**No. 4 North Carolina 107, Cleveland St. 64:** At Chapel Hill, N.C., Raymond Felton ran his streak of consecutive three-pointers to 12 and finished with 13 points and eight assists for North Carolina (11-1).

Omari Westley had 18 points for the Vikings (3-5), who lost their fifth straight.

**No. 5 Wake Forest 98, North Carolina A&T 76:** At Winston Salem, N.C., Justin Gray scored 21 of his 23 points in the first half to lift Wake Forest (11-1). Sean Booker scored 18 points for the Aggies (1-11).

**No. 7 Syracuse 80, Hofstra 75:** At Syracuse, N.Y., Hakim Warrick scored 29 points and the Orange (13-1) rallied to beat previously unbeaten Hofstra. Antoine Audino had 17 points for the Pride (9-1).

**No. 11 Connecticut 123, Quinnipiac 71:** At Hartford, Conn., Josh Boone had 22 points and eight blocks to lead Connecticut (8-1) to a rout of Quinnipiac (4-5).

It was the highest output for Connecticut in 251 games at the Hartford Civic Center.

**No. 14 Arizona 84, Richmond 71:** At Tucson, Ariz., Chris Rodgers tied his career high with 20 points to help Arizona (10-2) win the title game of the Fiesta Bowl Classic.

Jamaal Scott had 16 points for Richmond (5-5).

**No. 19 Louisville 78, E. Kentucky 63:** At Louisville, Ky., Francisco Garcia scored 23 points and went over 1,000 for his career to lead the Cardinals (10-2).

Michael Haney scored 22 points and reached the 1,000-point mark for Eastern Kentucky (8-3).

**No. 21 Mississippi State 71, Virginia Tech 65:** At New Orleans, Lawrence Roberts scored 25 points and grabbed 19 rebounds as Mississippi State (12-2) rallied in the Sugar Bowl Classic.

Carlos Dixon led the Hokies (6-5) with 19.

**No. 22 Cincinnati 95, Longwood 69:** Jason Maxiell had 30 points and eight rebounds for Cincinnati (11-0) in the Las Vegas Holiday Classic. Michael Jefferson scored 27 points for Longwood (1-15).

Men's  
Top 25  
roundup

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JAPAN KOREA OKINAWA ONLINE  
GUAM AUSTRALIA SINGAPORE  
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UNITED KINGDOM BAHRAIN EGYPT  
GREECE BELGIUM  
CROATIA PORTUGAL  
NETHERLANDS AFGHANISTAN  
SERBIA and MONTENEGRO  
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# Iowa's miracle finish jolts Saban, LSU

## Tate's long pass on final play erases LSU's late comeback

BY STEVEN WINE  
The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Just when it looked as though coach Nick Saban would go out a winner at LSU, the Iowa Hawkeyes came up with a miracle finish.

Drew Tate threw a 56-yard touchdown pass to Warren Holloway on the final play Saturday, and No. 11 Iowa stunned No. 12 Louisiana State 30-25 in the Capital One Bowl.

Saban, who will become the Miami Dolphins' coach next week, threw up his arms in frustration and then watched as the entire Iowa team mobbed Holloway in the end zone.

The score capped a wild fourth quarter and spoiled a comeback by the Tigers, who overcame a 12-point deficit with 8½ minutes left.

Freshman JaMarcus Russell came off the bench to spark



Iowa quarterback Drew Tate (5) and backup quarterback Jason Manson, left, celebrate Tate's 56-yard TD pass to Warren Holloway that gave the Hawkeyes their eight straight victory, 30-25 in the Capital One Bowl.

LSU's rally, throwing two touchdown passes to Skyler Green. When they connected for a 3-yard score, the Tigers led 25-24 with 46 seconds to go.

After Tate completed two passes, a penalty pushed Iowa back to its 44 with 14 seconds left. Tate wound up and threw long to the open Holloway, who caught the strike in stride at the 10 and dashed to the end zone as time expired.

Iowa (10-2) won its eighth game in a row to reach double digits in victories for the third consecutive year under coach Kirk

Ferentz. Four of the Hawkeyes' victories have been by a total of 11 points.

Aside from the fourth-quarter rally, LSU (9-3) struggled on offense and looked sloppy on special teams playing one week after Saban announced his resignation. He finished 48-16 in five years with the Tigers, leading them to a bowl game every season and to the BCS national championship in 2003.

LSU, which rallied in the fourth quarter to win four times during the regular season, came back after Iowa took a 24-12 lead with 12:48 left.

Russell, Saban's third quarterback of the game, capped a 74-yard drive by hitting Green with a 22-yard scoring pass. The Tigers quickly forced a punt, and this time Russell moved them 69 yards for a one-point lead that lasted until the final play.

While Tate was the hero, special teams were the difference. LSU had two punts blocked, missed a 40-yard extra-point kick after committing two penalties, and came up short when Saban faked a 39-yard field-goal attempt.

The late fireworks came after both offenses sputtered for much of the game.



LSU lineman Andrew Whitworth feels the pain of losing on the final play of the game. The Tigers wiped out a 12-point deficit in the final 8½ minutes but failed to win coach Nick Saban's last game at LSU.

Aside from a 74-yard touchdown run by Alley Broussard, the Hawkeyes bottled up LSU's potent running attack. And Iowa totaled just three first downs in the first half but led 14-12 thanks to two big plays.

The Hawkeyes scored on their first possession by burning a blitz. Clinton Solomon caught a short pass over the middle from Tate, shook off a defender and sprinted to the end zone for a 57-yard score.

Iowa struck again 64 seconds before halftime on Miguel Merck's blocked punt. Sean Considine scooped up the ball at the 7 and scored for a 14-6 lead.

LSU answered on the next play with Broussard's long run. He swept right, cut back, found an opening and scored on the Tigers' biggest gain of the season.

Iowa mounted scored marches of 60 and 72 yards in the second half. The first drive ended with a 19-yard field goal by Kyle Schlicher, and Marques Simmons' 4-yard touchdown run made it 24-12.



Iowa's Warren Holloway runs toward the end zone on the decisive play of the Capital One Bowl.

## Georgia's Greene goes out a winner

BY FRED GOODALL  
The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — One last victory for David Greene, the winningest quarterback in NCAA history.

No. 8 Georgia closed the Greene era with a 24-21 victory over No. 16 Wisconsin in the Outback Bowl on Saturday. Greene threw for 264 yards and two touchdowns in his last game for the Bulldogs (10-2), continuing his assault on the Southeastern Conference record book and adding victory No. 42 to his NCAA mark.

The senior from Snellville, Ga., has started every game since Mark Richt took over as Georgia's coach in 2001. He surpassed Peyton Manning's SEC and NCAA mark for career wins (39) this season and finished 17-1 against non-conference opponents.

Greene completed 19 of 38 passes

es, but also had two intercepted after throwing only two during the regular season. Wisconsin's Andy Crooks returned the second interception 11 yards for a TD and John Stocco's two-point conversion pass to Jonathan Orr cut Georgia's lead to three with 4:13 to go.

The Bulldogs didn't give the Badgers (9-3) a chance to get closer, driving to the Wisconsin 5 before taking a knee on successive plays to run out the clock. Thomas Brown gained 49 of his 111 yards rushing on the final drive.

It was the third straight appearance in a New Year's Day game for Georgia, which was ranked as high as No. 3 before falling out of contention for a BCS berth because of losses to Tennessee and Auburn.

The Bulldogs improved to 42-10 in four years under Richt, the second-best run for a Georgia senior class behind the 43-4-1

record compiled while winning a national championship and three straight SEC titles in the early 1980s. The victory gave Georgia at least 10 victories for the third straight season, one shy of the school record set from 1980-83.

Wisconsin won its first nine games to climb into national title contention, but stumbled down the stretch with losses to Michigan State and Iowa by a combined 79-21. The second loss cost the Badgers a share of the Big Ten title and a spot in the Rose Bowl. Wisconsin coach Barry Alvarez's 7-3 record in bowl games gives him one of the best winning percentages in college football history, but all three of the losses have come against SEC opponents, including 33-6 to Georgia in the 1998 Outback.

Greene began the game by directing a 78-yard field goal drive and threw a 19-yard TD pass to Fred Gibson for a 10-6 lead midway through the second quarter.

## Rix recovers to lift FSU over the Mountaineers

BY JOHN RABY  
The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Florida State quarterback Chris Rix struggled for most of his career, and nothing had changed in the Gator Bowl, his final game.

Coach Bobby Bowden stuck with the senior, who eventually gave the Seminoles a spark. Rix crafted two long second-half touchdown drives, leading No. 17 Florida State to a 30-18 victory over West Virginia on Saturday.

"Chris played kind of like his career has gone," Bowden said. "That's what's been missing all year. We finally got it, but now the season is over."

The Seminoles (9-3) overcame several mistakes to avoid an unprecedented third straight bowl setback.

Bowden, facing his former

school for the first time since the 1982 Gator Bowl, moved within one bowl win of Joe Paterno's NCAA record of 19.

Rix fumbled three times and threw two interceptions, one of which led to a touchdown. But Rix settled down, completing five straight passes during a 90-yard drive late in the third quarter, capped by his 14-yard TD pass to Craphthon Thorpe. Thorpe leaped for the ball over Dee McCann in the right corner of the end zone for a 23-15 lead.

Leon Washington carried Florida State much of the day, finishing with 195 yards rushing.

Quarterback Rasheed Marshall and West Virginia's platoon of running backs proved the nation's top run defense for 238 yards. But the Mountaineers (8-4) failed to find the end zone three times after advancing into the 20-yard line.



# Vols rout Texas A&M

BY JAIME ARON  
The Associated Press

DALLAS — Tennessee had enough of the blowout bowl losses. The Volunteers spent this New Year's Day watching the scoreboard spin in their favor.

Rick Clausen looked nothing like the third-stringer he was most of the season, leading No. 15 Tennessee to five touchdowns in just 21 quarters, and the defense had its way with No. 22 Texas A&M in a 38-7 victory in the Cotton Bowl on Saturday.

The Volunteers (10-3) had lost four of their past five bowl games, the past two by a combined 40 points. After never leading in either of those games, they made things different just seven plays into this one when Clausen short pased to C.J. Foyton turned to a 57-yard touchdown.

Tennessee wound up with the most lopsided victory in its 45-game bowl history. The Vols came within 5.3 of their first bowl shutout since the last time

they played the Aggies, in the 1957 Gator Bowl.

The rout was as much a result of the Volunteers playing perfectly by as it was the Aggies self-destructing. For instance, A&M lost only one fumble in its first seven games, but gave away four this time. Three came in the first half, helping Tennessee stretch its quick 7-0 lead to 21-0 early in the second quarter, forcing the Aggies (7-5) out of their game plan.

Instead of relying on the rushing of Gerald Riggs Jr. and Cedric Houston, Clausen came out firing from a variety of formations and showed the poise and patience of a seasoned leader, not a junior transfer who was beaten out by two freshmen and was playing only because they were both hurt.

Clausen was 18 of 27 for 222 yards in three touchdowns, no interceptions and no sacks.

Tennessee gained 306 yards by halftime, even though two TD drives went just 28 and 8 yards thanks to fumble recoveries. The Vols set another school bowl record with 32 first downs.

# Navy: Mids run over Lobos

NAVY, FROM BACK PAGE

responsibility for some of the most dangerous regions in Iraq, including Anbar province, which contains Fallujah, and the area of Northern Balad province that was to be known as the Triangle of Death. In the past three months, two former Navy football players turned Marines, 1st Lt. Ron Winchester and 2nd Lt. J.P. Blackman, were killed in Anbar province.

Polanco has chosen to become a Marine pilot.

"I think it's something that we of Deader, we're not just here to play football," Polanco said. He said the possibility that the players would be sent to Iraq is "a realization we have to expect." Divis said the possibility of serving made Thursday's victory "even more meaningful."

The contest had promised to be more challenging offensively for Navy, which finished with 274 yards, 124 through the air.

New Mexico had made it to San Francisco on the strength of a persistent running attack and a defense that allowed just 69 points in the final five games of the season, all victories.

However, near the end of the first quarter, Lobos quarterback Cole McKeany drifted right on an option play, then made a long pitch to DonTrell Moore, the three-time all-conference tailback. Just as Moore caught the ball, he was decimated by left cornerback Vaughn Kelly. Kelly flipped Moore, barreling into the running back's left knee.

Midshipman linebacker Lane Jackson recovered the fumble on the Lobos' 22-yard line. Moore, an NFL prospect, suffered a knee injury and did not return to action. Kelly, who also made a key goal-line stop, was selected as the game's defensive MVP.

"Ninety-nine years, man, that's something," Kelly said, when asked about the significance of the victory.

# College football scoreboard

## Bowl glance

**Thursday, Dec. 30**  
**Cumulative live bowl**  
Payoff: \$760,000  
Boston College vs. Virginia 24  
**Emerald Bowl**  
Payoff: \$760,000  
Navy 34, New Mexico 10

**Friday, Dec. 31**  
**Payoff: \$760,000**  
Texas Tech vs. Houston  
**Silicon Valley Classic**  
At San Jose, Calif.  
Payoff: \$760,000  
Northern Illinois 34, Troy 10

**Friday, Dec. 31**  
**Payoff: \$760,000**  
Miami vs. Boston College  
**Capital One Bowl**  
Payoff: \$1.5 million  
Arizona State 27, Louisville 44

**Liberty Bowl**  
At Memphis, Tenn.  
Payoff: \$1.5 million  
Louisville 44, Tennessee 38  
**Peach Bowl**  
At Atlanta  
Payoff: \$2.2 million  
Saturday, Jan. 1

**Cotton Bowl**  
At Dallas  
Payoff: \$1 million  
Tennessee 38, Texas A&M 7  
**Sun Bowl**  
At El Paso  
Payoff: \$2.2 million  
Georgia 24, South Carolina 18

**Gator Bowl**  
At Gainesville, Fla.  
Payoff: \$1.6 million  
Florida State 27, Virginia Tech 18  
**Capital One Bowl**  
At Orlando  
Payoff: \$5.8 million  
Iowa 30, Missouri 10

**Rose Bowl**  
At Pasadena, Calif.  
Payoff: \$14.5 million  
Michigan 30, Texas (10-3)  
**Fiesta Bowl**  
At Phoenix  
Payoff: \$14.5 million  
Utah (11-0) vs. Pittsburgh 1-1  
**Sugar Bowl**  
At New Orleans  
Payoff: \$14.5 million  
Auburn (12-0) vs. Texas (10-2)

**Payoff: \$14.5 million**  
**Tuesday, Jan. 4**  
**At Miami**  
Payoff: \$14.5 million  
Southern Cal (12-0) vs. Oklahoma (12-0)

## Frida's games

**Music City Bowl**  
**Minnesota 20, Alabama 16**  
Alabama 7 0 7 0 16  
Minnesota 0 2 0 2 16

**First Quarter**  
Alabama-McClain 2 pass from Pennington (Baker) 12, 2-10  
Minnesota-Lumber 1 fumble return (Lloyd kick), 4-10

**Second Quarter**  
Alabama-McClain 10 run (Lloyd kick), 14-57  
Minnesota-Barker 2 run (Lloyd kick), 25-7  
Alabama-McClain 10 run (Lloyd kick), 35-7  
Minnesota-FG Lutz 10, 45-7  
Alabama-Team Sully 2, 45-11

**Third Quarter**  
Alabama-McClain 10 run (Lloyd kick), 45-11  
Minnesota-Barker 2 run (Lloyd kick), 51-7  
Alabama-McClain 10 run (Lloyd kick), 61-7  
Minnesota-Barker 2 run (Lloyd kick), 67-7  
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# Red Raiders bail out Brown, BCS

By **BERNIE WILSON**  
The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Mack Brown and the BCS have been exonerated by the Texas Tech Red Raiders.

Stunned at getting knocked out of the Rose Bowl by the Texas Longhorns, the No. 4 California Golden Bears couldn't even hang with No. 23 Texas Tech in the Holiday Bowl, losing 45-31 on Thursday night.

Cal coach Jeff Tedford said there was no connection between the snub and the drubbing.

"We didn't lose the game because we didn't go to the Rose Bowl," Tedford said. "It had nothing to do with focus and preparation because we didn't go to the Rose Bowl."

"Once and for all, please, it has nothing to do with it. It is not going to set our program back."

In that case, it looks as if Brown isn't such a villain, after all.

Cal had been in position to go to the Rose Bowl for the first time in 46 seasons, but was leaptfrogged in the final Bowl Championship Series standings by Brown's Texas Longhorns, who ended up in Pasadena to face Michigan on Saturday.

The day the BCS pairings were released, Cal quarterback Aaron Rodgers said Brown "was a little classless" for begging for poll votes to help his Longhorns, and that the system was "fauxty." And Tedford said votes in the coaches' poll should be made public.

The Longhorns, by the way, beat Texas Tech 51-21 at Lubbock on Oct. 23.

Texas Tech fans mocked Cal with chants of "Overrated!" in the closing minutes.

The Golden Bears (10-2), who were 111-1-p-6 favorites, simply had no answer against the Red Raiders 9-4 and their efficient spread offense, which uses four wide receivers most of the time.

Tech senior Sonny Cumbie threw for a career-high 520 yards and three touchdowns, including a 60-yarder to Joel Filani. Safety Vincent Meeks set up a score with a 48-yard interception return.

Cumbie was 39-for-60 and broke the Holiday Bowl attempts record of 59 set by BYU's Ty Detmer in 1989. He was short of Detmer's Holiday Bowl record of 576 yards, also set in 1989.

"We have a great band of players around me," Cumbie said, "and so throwing the ball to them makes things happen. I knew we could have a big night if we executed real well."

Cumbie said opponents can practice all they want, "but our receivers are too fast, our offensive linemen are too good. You can't simulate how good our offense is in three weeks of practice."

Cal's J.J. Arrington became the third running back in Pac-10 history to rush for 2,000 yards in a season. The senior from Nashville, N.C., carried 25 times for 173 yards and reached 201 yards.

Southern Cal's Marcus Allen had 2,427 yards in 1981 and Charles White had 2,050 in 1979 when he won the Heisman Trophy.

Arrington scored on a 2-yard run in the first quarter, his 15th rushing TD of the season, a school record. He had been tied with Lindsey Chapman and Russell White.

The Golden Bears were undisciplined on defense — they had two personal fouls on one Tech drive — and Rodgers looked confused at times. California was without career reception leader Geoff McArthur, who broke his left leg in the fourth quarter of a 26-6 victory at Southern Mississippi on Dec. 4.

"We thought we had a good game plan for them," Arrington said. "We didn't underestimate them at all. We worked hard like we did every other week for anybody else."

Cal's only other loss was 23-17 to No. 1 USC on Oct. 9.

Texas Tech had four scoring drives that took less than two minutes each. Trailing 14-7 after the first quarter, the Red Raiders scored 24 straight points and had a commanding 31-14 lead by early in the third quarter.

Cumbie threw a 5-yard touchdown pass to Jarrett Hicks for a 17-14 lead with 8:57 left before halftime. The short drive was set up by Meeks' interception return.

Tech piled it on with Taurean Henderson's 2-yard run late in the second quarter and Cumbie's 60-yard scoring pass to Filani on the opening drive of the second half for a 17-point lead. Filani caught the ball at the Cal 40 and raced past cornerback Daymeion Hughes into the end zone.

Hicks also had a 9-yard TD catch in the first quarter.

Rodgers threw an 11-yard TD pass to Garrett Cross and scored on a 1-yard sneak, both in the fourth quarter. Rodgers was 24-for-42 for 246 yards, with one interception.



Texas Tech's Joel Filani pulls in a 60-yard touchdown pass as California's Daymeion Hughes chases the play in the third quarter of the Holiday Bowl on Thursday night.

## Novice QB sparks Sun Devils over Boilermakers

The Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas — Sam Keller showed remarkable poise in his first collegiate start, throwing a 19-yard touchdown pass to Rudy Burgess with 44 seconds left to lead No. 21 Arizona State to a 27-23 victory over Purdue in the Sun Bowl on Friday.

Starting for injured star Andrew Walter, the untested sophomore completed all four of his passes on the final 80-yard drive in a frantic finish that stunned the Boilermakers and the Sun Bowl-record crowd of 51,288.

Burgess caught Keller's final throw on a screen play, slipped two tackles along the sideline and cut back inside en route to the end zone to give the Sun Devils (9-3) the lead only 30 seconds after Purdue had gone ahead.

The Boilermakers (7-5) had their final opportunity to go for naught when a desperation heave by quarterback Kyle Orton fell incomplete in the end zone as time expired.

Keller put on quite a show in place of Walter, going 25-for-45 for 370 yards and three touchdowns.

Burgess, who wasn't selected to start until Hakin Hill was kicked off the team earlier this week for breaking unspecified team rules, also had a career afternoon with 189 yards of offense and two touchdowns receptions.

Derek Hagan added nine receptions for 182 yards and a touchdown for ASU, which had lost its three previous bowl games.

Arizona State's two novice offensive standouts outplayed Orton and Taylor Stubbsfield,

### Bowl roundup

who made up one of the NCAA's most prolific pass-catch duos. Orton finished 23-for-47 for 283 yards and three touchdowns and Stubbsfield had seven catches for 81 yards in their final college game together.

**Minnesota 20, Alabama 16:** At Nashville, Tenn., Marion Barber III ran for 187 yards and a touchdown and teammate Laurence Maroney added 105 yards on the ground as Minnesota edged Alabama in the Music City Bowl.

Barber and Maroney, the only teammates in NCAA history to each rush for 1,000 yards in consecutive seasons, were the only runners to go over 100 yards in a game this season against the Crimson Tide (6-6), which entered the game as the nation's second-ranked defense.

The Golden Gophers (7-5) ran for 276 yards to overcome three turnovers — including two by Barber — on their first three possessions. Still, they nearly gave the game away in the fourth quarter.

Rhys Lloyd, who made field goals from 27 and 24 yards, missed a 24-yard attempt with 5:34 left that would have sealed the victory.

On Minnesota's next possession, it was pinned deep in its own end and elected to take a safety to make it 20-16 rather than attempt a punt.

The decision nearly backfired. Alabama's Tyrone Prothro returned the free kick to the Minnesota 48, and four completions by

Spencer Pennington got the Crimson Tide to the 15. But Pennington overthrew an open receiver for a likely touchdown on third down and couldn't convert a fourth-and-5 play with 1:14 left.

In bowl games Thursday:  
**No. 25 Boston College 37, North Carolina 24:** At Charlotte,

N.C., kicker Ryan Ohliger ran 21 yards for a touchdown on a fake field goal one play after quarterback Paul Peterson was taken off the field on a stretcher with a broken leg, giving Boston College a win in the Continental Tire Bowl.

Before leaving, Peterson went 24-for-33 for 236 yards and two

TDs, helping BC (9-3) win a bowl for the fifth straight season.

**Northwestern Illinois 34, Troy 21:** At San Jose, Calif., Josh Haldi passed for 146 yards and rushed for two touchdowns to lead Northwestern Illinois past Troy in the Silicon Valley Football Classic.

It was the first bowl victory in 21 years for the Huskies (9-3).

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# Louisville ends Boise State's win streak

BY TERESA M. WALKER

The Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — In the highest-scoring Liberty Bowl ever, it was a defensive play by Louisville that ended Boise State's 22-game winning streak.

Louisville safety Kerry Rhodes intercepted a pass in the end zone as time expired to preserve No. 7 Louisville's 44-40 victory over 16-ranked Boise State on Friday.

"It's a great way to end it," Louisville coach Bobby Petrino said. A national audience, two teams that were supposed to score over 84 points. I think we hit it right on the top."

Louisville now enters the Big East Conference in grand style after handing Boise State its first loss since September 2003 in a game that was the most important in school history for both programs.

"This was big for us," Boise State receiver Chris Carr said. "We don't see ourselves as a non-BCS school or a little school. We see ourselves on the same level as any school we play."

"We wanted to come out here and prove to everybody that we're not a team in the WAC that's not very good, and we just beat up on little teams."

Eric Sheltton scored the

**"I think where he [Louisville's Stefan LeFors] made some big plays, huge plays, was running the football. On key downs and in key situations, he really sparked them."**

Dan Hawkins

Boise State coach

go-ahead touchdown on a 1-yard run with 6:48 left. Stefan LeFors threw two touchdown passes and also ran for a score as the Cardinals (11-1), who have never finished a season ranked higher than 13th, matched a school record for victories.

The Cardinals won their third Liberty Bowl in their final appearance as a Conference USA team.

The Broncos (11-1) had one last chance to win after Art Carmody's 19-yard field goal with 1:10 left put Louisville up by four. Quarterback Jared Zabransky drove the Broncos to the Louisville 30 before his final pass into the end zone as time expired was intercepted by Rhodes. The Louisville defender atoned for his missed interception opportunity in a 41-38 loss on Oct. 14 to then-No. 3 Miami.

"God blessed me to put me in position to make the play, and I made the play," Rhodes said.

The win was a welcome end to a week in which the Cardinals

were forced to deal with the news that Petrino had interviewed with LSU about its open coaching job. They certainly didn't seem distracted against the Broncos.

Petrino kept referring to the Cardinals as "we," and asked if that would remain the same, he had a short answer.

"We certainly hope so," Petrino said, and he later confirmed he'd withdrawn his name from consideration by LSU.

LeFors said the Cardinals had no problem focusing on the task at hand with all the rumors about Petrino's future.

"We wanted to play the game between the lines and let all that other talk, just put it in the back of your minds and not even worry about it," LeFors said.

Everyone expected a high-scoring game in a bowl pairing the nation's top two offenses, and the teams didn't disappoint as they swapped the lead five times. The 84 points topped the 80 by Colorado and Alabama in 1969 and

was one of a handful of records set.

Louisville won for the second time in seven bowls despite a season-high four turnovers. The Cardinals rolled up 564 yards, topping 500 yards for the ninth time this season.

LeFors was 18-for-26 for 193 yards and ran 12 times for 76 yards.

The Cardinals rushed for 329 yards against a defense that had been the nation's fourth-best against the run.

"He, particularly running the football, killed us," Boise State coach Dan Hawkins said of LeFors. "That doesn't mean he didn't make some throws because he obviously did. But I think where he made some big plays, huge plays, was running the football. On key downs and in key situations, he really sparked them."

This was the biggest game in school history for Boise State, a program that moved up to Division I-A in 1996. The Broncos,

who played their first three bowls in their home field known for its blue turf, thought they could keep up with an offense that had trailed only Louisville for most yards and points.

But the Broncos, who lost 12 starters from their 2003 squad, finished with 284 yards offense, well below their 511.6-yard average.

The teams still rewrote the Liberty Bowl record book. The Liberty Bowl combined for the most points in the first quarter with 24, and their 52 points were the most for the first half.

Boise State kicker Tyler Jones had a record 48-yard field goal on the Broncos' first drive, and Broncos linebacker Andy Avalos had a 92-yard interception return off LeFors in the first quarter that bested the 79-yarder by Michael Jordan of Tulane in 1998.

Boise State led as much as 34-21 early in the third quarter after scoring 24 straight points.

The Cardinals settled down when LeFors took them on an 81-yard drive in eight plays, which he capped with a 14-yard TD toss to J.R. Russell. LeFors then drove Louisville the lead at 35-34 when he ran in for a yard with 2:17 left in the third.

Boise State led last at 40-35 when Jon Helmandollar plunged in from 2 yards with 10:51 left.

# Miami wins Florida 'state title' by blasting Gators

BY MARK LONG

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Miami center Joel Rodriguez walked across the confetti-covered field, carrying the Peach Bowl trophy, hugging teammates and waving to fans.

It certainly didn't have the same feel as a national championship or even a conference title.

But it will do.

"This is a great way to end your career," said Rodriguez, a senior. Indeed, The Hurricanes gladly settled for the state title Friday night.

Devin Hester returned a blocked field goal 78 yards for a touchdown, Roscoe Parrish returned a punt 72 yards for a score and the 14th-ranked Hurricanes beat No. 20 Florida 27-10 in the Peach Bowl.

"Those guys are playmakers," Miami coach Larry Coker said. "Team speed is one thing, but to have the ability to make people miss and score touchdowns is a kick that Roscoe and Devin have."

Miami earned a third consecutive "state title" by beating Florida and Florida State in the same season, spoiling interim coach Charlie Strong's debut and extending its winning streak against the Gators (7-5) to six games.

This time, the Hurricanes (9-3) didn't need a strong performance from Brock Berlin. The senior quarterback who transferred from Florida in January 2002 to Miami this fall finished in a 38-33 comeback victory last year.

Berlin finished 13-for-23 for 171 yards Friday. He had a 20-yard touchdown pass to Ryan



Roscoe Parrish's 72-yard punt return TD helped Miami beat Florida 27-10 Friday night in the Peach Bowl.

Moore in the third quarter and ended his career 5-0 as a starter against Florida's two biggest rivals — Miami and Florida State.

"There's no better feeling than beating FSU three times and Florida twice," Berlin said. "If that isn't big, I don't know what is."

Although Berlin stayed perfect against in-state competition, Mi-

ami's special teams and defense did the most damage on New Year's Eve.

"In big games like this, you can't give up big plays," Strong said. "Miami ended up getting big plays. They got the two big plays in the kicking game."

Just four plays after a blocked punt gave the Gators great field

position, defensive lineman Thomas Carroll blocked Matt Leach's 32-yard field goal attempt. Hester picked up the loose ball and sprinted the other way for a score.

The momentum swing set the tone for the Hurricanes, who sacked Chris Leak on the next two plays and intercepted a pass

late in the second quarter. Miami put constant pressure on Leak and finished with five sacks.

"Chris was never able to get comfortable in the pocket," Strong said. "They got tons of pressure and a lot of sacks."

Leach overthrew O.J. Small one play after Frank Gore fumbled in Florida territory. Hester picked off the pass and snaked his way 28 yards across the field to put Miami back in field goal range. Jon Peattie nailed a 47-yarder to give the 'Canes a 10-3 lead.

Miami forced Florida to punt on the ensuing possession, and Parrish caught the line-drive kick and ran untouched up the seam for a 72-yard score.

Strong said the special teams breakdowns might not have happened had fired coach Ron Zook been around. Zook also was Florida's special teams coordinator.

It got worse. Leach missed a 41-yard field goal in the waning seconds of the first half that could have sparked the Gators.

Berlin's TD pass early in the third quarter silenced the partisan and packed Georgia Dome.

"We woke up a little bit on offense in the second half," Coker said. "We got up by three scores, and the clock became our ally."

Still, Leak's best pass of the game got the Gators back in it.

He faked a handoff, had plenty of time and found Jemelle Cornelius wide open on a post pattern for a 45-yard score.

Leach finished 19-for-39 for 262 yards with a touchdown and two interceptions. But his comeback was short-lived.

Leach capped a 65-yard drive with Peattie's 32-yard field goal, making it 27-10 early in the fourth.

## SPORTS



Diamondbacks, Yankees reach another tentative agreement on Johnson trade, Page 32



## Navy shines in Emerald Bowl

Mids seal first 10-win season since 1905 by routing Lobos

BY STEVE FAINARU  
The Washington Post

SAN FRANCISCO — Navy football's first 10-win season in 99 years ended with quarterback Aaron Polanco leading an astonishing 26-play drive across a wet field against one of the nation's toughest defenses.

The drive consumed 14 minutes, 26 seconds — nearly an entire quarter — and traveled 94 yards into the wind before Geoff Blumenfeld kicked a 22-yard field goal, completing Navy's 34-19 victory over New Mexico Thursday in the third Emerald Bowl.

The long march provided a grinding summary not only of how Navy won its first bowl game since 1996, but also how it turned around its program under coach Paul Johnson, who took over in 2002 after the Midshipmen went 1-20 the previous two seasons.

During this 10-2 season, the best since Navy went 10-1-1 in 1905, Johnson relied heavily on the previously untested Polanco, a quantitative economics major from Wimberly, Texas, who was born so tiny (2 pounds) in 1983 he was simultaneously baptized and given his last rites.

Now an unimposing 6-foot, 208 pounds, Polanco was all over the field Thursday, diving into puddle-filled end zones, hurdling defenders, catching halfback passes. The game's most valuable of fensive player ran for three touchdowns and gained 136 yards on 26 carries. He threw for another touchdown, a 61-yard strike to



Navy quarterback Aaron Polanco, jumping over New Mexico's Gabriel Fulbright, ran for three touchdowns and threw for another to lead the Midshipmen to a 34-19 victory over New Mexico in the Emerald Bowl on Thursday. Polanco, a senior, ran for 136 yards and even caught two passes for 23 yards.

*"I think this will go down in the annals as one of the special Navy teams."*

Paul Johnson  
Navy coach

wide receiver Corey Dryden that was Navy's longest of the season. He also caught two passes from slotback Frank Davis; one set up a touchdown and the other extended the long fourth-quarter march.

"I think this will go down in the annals as one of the special Navy teams," said Johnson, who has led the Middies to an 18-7 record the past two years.

Navy was the second-least penalized team in the nation this sea-

■ After BCS snub, California is sacked by Texas Tech, Page 38



Linebacker Bobby McClarin (51) jars the ball loose from New Mexico quarterback Kole McKamery, right. Navy's defense forced three turnovers and shut out the Lobos in the second half.

AP



Iowa upends LSU on 56-yard score on final play; Georgia, Florida State, Tennessee prevail

Pages 36, 37



No. 7 Louisville storms back to beat 10th-ranked Boise State; Miami claims another state title

Page 39



No. 2 Kansas beats ninth-ranked Georgia Tech on last-second shot

Page 34



Navy celebrates its first postseason victory since the 1996 Aloha Bowl. The Midshipmen sealed the victory with a 14-minute, 26-second drive that ended with a field goal late in the fourth quarter.

son, 16 of them starters.

Upon graduation, each player will begin mandatory military service and possible tours in Iraq, in particular those players who have selected service in the U.S. Marine Corps.

The Marines have operational

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